We have named 25 Distinguished Abstracts for 2005 and I’d like to thank Tom Annesley and his committee for their hard work in choosing these deserving recipients. These 25 abstracts were chosen from more than 825 submitted abstracts for the meeting and truly represent the purpose of this program which is to promote the scholarship of discovery and recognize those abstracts describing exceptional studies.

The NACB co-sponsors the AACC Student Poster Contest together with ComACC and the ABCC. This year it will be held on Monday afternoon from 2-4:30pm at the convention center. If you are free, I would like to invite all of our members to attend and support this outstanding event.

The Leadership of the Academy and AACC will continue their discussions on a closer relationship between the two organizations and plan to meet in St. Louis in August. I’ll update you on the discussions and any conclusions we reach once the Board of Directors of both groups have had an opportunity to meet and discuss the issues.

Thank you again for giving me this opportunity to serve the Academy and I look forward to seeing you all in Orlando.

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The policy of the NACB is that only the President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer may make official statements on behalf of the NACB. This limitation does not apply to the conduct of routine business transactions. All views expressed in the newsletter are solely those of the contributors, authors, or editors and not necessarily those of the NACB.

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NATIONAL ACADEMY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY
OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2005

At its spring meeting, the Board approved final revisions to the NACB’s new strategic plan. The plan, which sets the priorities for the organization, was originally developed in 1998 by a committee, headed by Roland Valdes. The Board updated the plan to recognize changes in priorities, and because many of the elements in the prior plan had already been accomplished. The Board emphasized five main areas, three which were retained from the previous plan and two of which represent refocused areas of emphasis: Research, Education, Professional Development, Clinical Practice, and its role as the Academy of AACC. At the same time, the Board also reviewed our Vision and Mission. The Board reaffirmed our core membership (Doctoral Clinical Biochemists) and our joint interests with AACC (to serve as the Academy of AACC) in these two statements.

A strategic plan should not be a static document, and the Board welcomes your feedback on our vision for the future of NACB. We hope you will take the time to read through our strategic plan and take part in shaping the direction of NACB as we proceed through our second quarter-century of existence.

D. Robert Dufour, M.D., FACB
Past-President, NACB
Advancing Scholarship in Laboratory Medicine

STRATEGIC PLAN

National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry
The Academy of AACC

This Strategic Plan will be used to guide the development of the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry (Academy), and will be updated at intervals as needed. The purpose is to develop the Academy to meet the needs of its members and the profession. The emphasis is on enhancing the practice and profession of clinical biochemistry through the scholarships of discovery, application, integration, and education. Whenever possible, measurable outcomes will be used as indices of success.

Vision: As doctoral clinical biochemists, to be the leading scholarly organization advancing the science and practice of clinical laboratory medicine.

Mission: To advance clinical practice and research, to promote education and professional development in clinical laboratory medicine, and to serve as the Academy of AACC.

The Academy will carry out this mission by using the following five Strategic Objectives as a guide for implementing the Strategic Plan.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Strategic Objective I (Research). The Academy will be the leading advocate for scholarship through scientific research in clinical laboratory science.

1) Support research on outcomes data relating to laboratory tests
2) Recognize outstanding abstracts at the AACC Annual Meeting.
3) Support and recognize student research through activities such as the student poster contest and Grannis Award.
4) Support and recognize expertise in research, for example through the Distinguished Scientist Award.

Strategic Objective II (Education). The Academy will provide outstanding educational programs relating to the scholarships of discovery, application, and integration in clinical medicine.

1) Develop and support educational programs on laboratory medicine to laboratory professionals, clinicians, and other health professionals.
2) Develop mechanisms to distribute educational materials to the laboratory community.
3) Disseminate information on Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines through meetings, and print and electronic media.

Strategic Objective III (Professional Development). The Academy will enhance the professional development of its members and promote the value of the profession.

1) Promote ABCC and certification of doctorate level clinical biochemists
2) Partner with other laboratory medicine professional associations to continually assess the issues and needs of the work environment.
3) Maintain the vitality of the Academy by active membership recruitment.
4) Recognize service to the Academy, for example by the Dubin Award and special commendations as determined by the Board.
5) Develop Academy leaders by providing opportunities to participate in Academy committees and programs.
6) Support and promote COMACC.

Strategic Objective IV (Clinical Practice). In collaboration with other professional and clinical organizations, the Academy will be the leading laboratory society in the development of systematic reviews and laboratory practice guidelines.

1) Develop Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines (LMPGs) in cooperation with clinical organizations, based on review of evidence and consensus of experts.
2) Become a leader in developing systematic reviews in laboratory medicine, partnering with clinical organization and AHRQ.
3) Develop information for lay people regarding evidence on laboratory tests for incorporation into LabTests Online or the NACB web site.
4) Develop mechanism for assuring currency of LMPGs.
Strategic Objective V (The Academy of AACC).
The Academy will assume greater responsibilities within the AACC and continue to refine its roles on behalf of both the Academy and AACC.

1) Assume primary role for AACC in review of guidelines, developed by other organizations for endorsement.
2) Increase involvement of NACB representation on appropriate committees of AACC.
3) Serve as the scientific advisory group to the AACC.
4) Provide and advise on position papers/statements to AACC as needed.
5) Facilitate interaction between AACC and clinical professional organizations.

(Approved by the Board on April 18, 1998; Revised by the Board on March 13, 2005)

The National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry
The Academy of AACC

The National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry is the Academy of AACC and is dedicated to advancing the science and practice of clinical laboratory medicine through research, education, and professional development. The Academy is a leading advocate for scholarship through scientific research and it conducts educational programs to promote scientific discovery, application, and integration. It publishes laboratory medicine practice guidelines for the application of clinical biochemistry to medical diagnosis and therapy. NACB will conduct the following activities at the AACC Annual Meeting:

Monday, July 25
1:30 – 3:00 pm
NACB Board of Directors Meeting
Peabody Hotel

Wednesday, July 27
10:30am-12noon/2:45-5pm
NACB Guidelines for Use of Tumor Markers in the Clinic

Edutrak 3401
Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL

Wednesday, July 27
12:30-2:15pm
NACB Awards Luncheon and Membership Meeting
Peabody Hotel
Luncheon cost: $25.00
Make reservations in advance using the AACC Annual Meeting registration form.

NACB members are invited to attend this luncheon in honor of new Academy Fellows and recipients of the following awards:

Leonard Jarett, MD, FACB
Distinguished Scientist Award
Sponsored by Dade Behring Inc.

Charles D. Hawker, PhD, MBA, FACB
Professor Alvin Dubin Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Discipline of Clinical Biochemistry
Sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics

Jennifer A. Snyder, PhD
George Grannis Award for Outstanding Scientific or Clinical Report
(Given in recognition of outstanding achievements by young investigators)
Sponsored by NACB with support from the Ohio Valley Section of AACC

Tuesday-Thursday, July 26-28
NACB Exhibit
Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL
Learn more about NACB membership and Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines (LMPG) publications during the AACC Clinical Lab Exposition.

NACB membership is open to AACC members who are doctoral level clinical scientists, hold ABCC certification or have at least 10 years of postdoctoral experience in clinical biochemistry, and are active in research, education, or service to the field. For an NACB membership application, go to the NACB web site at www.nacb.org or contact Penelope Jones at AACC (pjones@aacc.org or call 202-659-8370.)
Advancing Scholarship in Laboratory Medicine

National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry

Distinguished Abstract Awards

The NACB is proud to announce the following recipients of its 2005 Distinguished Abstract Awards. This Academy program is designed to promote the scholarship of discovery and recognize scientific excellence among abstracts accepted for presentation at the XIX International Congress of Clinical Chemistry IFCC/AACC 2005 Meeting. The following 25 abstracts were chosen from 837 abstracts accepted for presentation at the meeting.

A rigorous selection process is used that incorporates a primary review by AACC members followed by a second review performed by a group of NACB Fellows. Only those abstracts that meet strict criteria during both reviews are designated as Distinguished Abstracts.

Tuesday, July 26, 10:00 a.m. A-108
Anissa Djemli, PhD
Cystatin C: A Marker of Kidney Function in Pediatric Oncology.

Tuesday, July 26, 10:00 a.m. A-140
David W. Seccombe, MD, PhD
Standardization of Creatinine: a Pre-requisite for Implementing the MDRD Formula for the Estimation of Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR)

Tuesday, July 26, 10:00 a.m. A-145
Raffick A. Bowen, PhD
Investigation of Immunoassay Interference from Reformulated Blood Collection Tubes.

Tuesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m. B-13
Maninder Kaur
Diagnostic and Prognostic Value of Serum Glycoproteins (Sialic Acid and Hexosamines) in Breast Cancer.

Tuesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m. B-19
Bernard C. Cook, PhD
The Use of the Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) Isoforms, BPH-A and ProPSA, to Improve the Specificity of PSA Tests for Cancer and Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia.

Tuesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m. B-34
Ross J. Molinaro
Identification of RNA Activators of 2',5'-Oligoadenylate Synthetase in Prostate Cancer Cells

Tuesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m. B-85
Dan Chen, PhD
The Correlation of Hepatitis B(HB) viral DNA in HBsAg Weakly Positive Samples by the Immulite 2000 Assay

Tuesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m. B-123
Gausai A. Khan
Isolation and Characterization of a Novel Protein from Goat Kidney and its Involvement in Nitric Oxide Production

Tuesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m. B-131
Michael N. Fahie-Wilson
Macro Creatine Kinase (MacroCK): Should We Be Screening for It?

Tuesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m. B-13
Mohamed Allam, MD, PhD
The Hypotensive Effect of Isoflurane Might be Related to Increased Production of Nitric Oxide

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-7
Mohamed Allam, MD, PhD
The Hypotensive Effect of Isoflurane Might be Related to Increased Production of Nitric Oxide

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-8
Mohamed Allam, MD, PhD
Up Regulation of Angiogenic Growth Factors is Associated with Renal Dysfunction in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-9
Mohamed Allam, MD, PhD
Impact of Renal Functional Impairment on Serum Tumor Markers Levels
Advancing Scholarship in Laboratory Medicine

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-30
Mustafa Serteser
Carbohydrate-Deficient Transferrin Levels in Non-Alcoholic Psychiatric Patients: Could It Be Used to Discriminate Psychiatric Disorders?

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-158
Marjorie Bon Homme
Potential Role for IFN-ß and IL-6 in Mediating Adaptive Tolerance to Acute Acetaminophen Toxicity

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-56
Peter I. Kupchak, PhD
Clinical Utility of Highly Sensitive Assays for Biochemical Markers of Traumatic Brain Injury in the Emergency Department: A Prospective Case-Control Study

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. D-87
Dr. Christian Götting
Detection of Novel ABCC6 Sequence Variations in Pseudoxanthoma Elasticum Patients from German Descent

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-60
Christa M. Cobbaert, PhD
Significance of HFE (C282Y, H63D) and FPNI (N144H) Gene Mutations in the Development of Cardiovascular Disease. Results from the Dutch Prospective Monitoring Project on Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors.

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-66
Anthony P. Furnary
The Portland Diabetic Project: Correcting the Unfair Disadvantage for Diabetic Patients Undergoing Cardiac Surgery

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-87
Scott J. Cameron, PhD
A Novel Atheroprotective Mechanism for High Density Lipoprotein: Attenuation of Endothelial Cell Inflammation.

Wednesday, July 28, 10:00 a.m. C-143
Douglas F. Stickle, PhD
Evaluation of Effects of Varying Hematocrit on Injected Mass of Internal Standard in Immunosuppressants Measurement by Tandem Mass Spectrometry

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. C-150
Alejandro R. Molinelli
Increased Hydrogen Peroxide-Induced DNA Strand Breaks by Arsenic Compounds in Human Cells

Thursday, July 28, 10:00 a.m. E-31
Leslie Holland
The Role of Automation in Reducing Test Turnaround Time Outliers and Decreasing Patient Length of Stay in the Emergency Department

Thursday, July 29, 10:00 a.m. E-125
Hassan M. Hussien Qazzaz, PhD
Evidence that DLIF and OLF have Different Biosynthetic Pathways in Adrenal Cells: A Potential New Model for Steroidogenesis in Adrenal Cells

Thursday, July 28, 10:00 a.m. E-144
Mark D. Shephard
Point-of-Care HbA1c and Urine ACR Testing for Diabetes Management in Rural and Remote Australian Aboriginal Medical Services - the ‘QAAMS’ Program Sets an International Precedent
**Topic and Speaker Schedule**

Edutrak Session 3401
National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry
Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines
*Guidelines for the Use of Tumor Markers in the Clinic*
Wednesday July 27, 2005
Orange County Convention Center—Room 304 E-H

**MORNING SESSION: 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON**
10:30 – 11:10
Welcome and Introduction – E. Diamandis
Quality Requirements and Control – C. Sturgeon
Strategies Used to Develop Practice Guidelines – B. Hoffman

11:15-Noon
Presentations of Guideline Recommendations followed by Public Comment and Discussion (Discussant)
**Breast cancer (M. Duffy); Plasma cell dyscrasias (monoclonal gammopathies) (M. Fleisher); Gastric cancer (J. Bonfrer); Liver cancer (C. Sturgeon); Lung cancer (E. Diamandis)**

**AFTERNOON SESSION: 2:45 PM – 5:00 PM**
2:45-3:30 PM
Presentations of Guideline Recommendations followed by Public Comment and Discussion (Discussant)
**Prostate cancer (L. Sokoll); Ovarian cancer (D. Chan); Cervical cancer (J. Bonfrer); Tumors of testicular/germ cell origins (U-H. Stenman); Bladder cancer (E. Diamandis / B. Hoffman)**

3:35-4:20 PM
Presentations of Guideline Recommendations followed by Public Comment and Discussion (Discussant)
**Pancreatic cancer (E. Diamandis / B. Hoffman); Parathyroid cancers (J. Wu); Neuroendocrine tumors (pheochromocytoma, neuroblastoma, carcinoid tumors) (E. Diamandis / B. Hoffman); Skin cancer (melanoma) (R. Gupta); Colorectal cancer (J. Duffy)**

4:25-5:00 PM
Presentations of Guideline Recommendations followed by Public Comment and Discussion (Discussant)
**Thyroid cancer (R. Whitley); Recommendations regarding the use of Microarrays (E-D. van der Merwe) and Mass Spectrometry (D. Chan)**
Concluding remarks (E. Diamandis)

Drafts of the 2005 revisions to the **Tumor Marker Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines** may be previewed at www.nacb.org.
2005 NACB Membership Committee Report

The final NACB membership numbers for 2004 along with the current 2005 membership numbers are given below. As shown the 2004 figures indicate that NACB membership has decreased slightly over 2003. Renewal notices have been sent to members who have not sent in their 2004 dues. All Fellows that have joined since the last annual meeting are to be recognized at the annual Awards Luncheon and membership meeting at the IFCC/AACC Meeting in Orlando, Florida. In February a letter co-signed by NACB President Dr. Mary Burritt and AACC President Dr. Mitch Scott was sent to 146 individuals in the UK, Ireland, New Zealand, and Australia inviting them to consider applying for membership in the NACB. Since the letter was sent 11 new international members have been approved.

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* as of 5/1/02 only honorary fellows with contact information included

New Fellows 92 80 23 28 19 17
New Associate Fellows 1 1 9 3 1 8

2006 Beckman Conference

Gary Myers, PhD announces the members of the LMPG Committee developing guidelines regarding Emerging Risk Factors of Long Term Risk Stratification: Robert Christenson (co-chair), Christie Ballantyne, Gerald R. Cooper, Mary Cushman, Scott Grundy, Darwin Labarthe, Daniel Levy, Gary L. Myers, Nader Rifai, and Peter Wilson. The recommendations developed by this committee will be presented during the 2006 Beckman Conference (October 2006). To keep the conference and guidelines focused the committee will focus on Inflammatory markers, Lipoproteins (to include Lp(a), Apo AI & B, and LDL subclasses and particle concentration, BNP, Renal Markers, and Homocysteine.

LabTests Online Reaches Milestone

NACB is a sponsor of LabTests Online. One year after hosting its 5 millionth visitor in February, 2004, Lab Tests Online has hosted its 10 millionth and was recognized in the Medicine on the Net Web Excellence Awards for Outstanding Content among Consumer Portals. It received an honorable mention in the content category.

Coming Soon: the CD Version of the Emergency Toxicology LMPG

In the next few weeks, a CD containing a revision of the Emergency Toxicology monograph will be mailed to NACB Fellows. Based on survey results, a CD version was determined to be the most economical and favored medium to distribution of the monograph.