



NEWS & VIEWS

MARCH 2005

Advancing Scholarship in Laboratory Medicine

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year and welcome to NACB 2005. As of this writing, I've been in office a month and am very busy, together with Bob Dufour and Tom Annesley, reviewing our efforts

in 2004 and setting priorities for this year. With much input from the committee chairs, the committee charges are written, and the committees are beginning their work. I am very grateful to all of our colleagues who give of their time and energy for the work of the Academy.

We had excellent programs in 2004 and will forward the final drafts of the LMPGs on Biomarkers of Acute Coronary Syndrome and Heart Failure, Evidence Based Practice for POCT, and Maternal and Fetal Health Risk Assessment this year. Congratulations to Rob Christenson, Jim Nichols and John Sherwin and their committees for the great success of these programs. We will have an LMPG session in Orlando in July on Tumor Markers, organized by Eleftherios Diamandis and his committee, and I'm looking forward to this outstanding program. The Education and Scientific Affairs Committee, chaired by Catherine Hammett-Stabler is beginning to plan for future LMPGs for 2007 and beyond. Your suggestions to Catherine or any committee members are always appreciated.

One of the major topics for the Board this year will be our relationship with AACC, what we see as our role as the "The Academy of AACC," and how we can best fulfill that role. We will also look at the functions and products of the Academy to determine if

we can streamline any of our processes. You may see a short questionnaire from time to time, asking your opinion on a select topic. Please respond to these short surveys. Your input is very important.

You will notice changes in the format of the AACC Annual Meeting this year, not related to the fact that it is a joint meeting of the XIX International Congress of Clinical Chemistry IFCC/AACC 2005 Annual Meeting. The only awards mentioned at the opening session on Sunday evening will be the Lectureship Award and the Past-Presidents Award. I will be announcing the NACB award winners on Wednesday morning just before the plenary session, showing slides of the winners and saying a few words about each of them. For the AACC awards, two will be presented on Sunday, and the remainder will be announced before the plenary session on Monday morning. I think this is a very positive change and will allow sufficient time to honor our awardees, rather than hurrying through the multiple awards recipients on Sunday evening. Plan now to put the Wednesday plenary session on your calendars, as well as our Awards luncheon and Membership Meeting which will begin 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday. There will be other changes to the AACC Annual Meeting format which will be implemented in 2006.

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to serve as President of the NACB; it is a tremendous honor to do so. And thanks again to all of you who contribute so much to the academy and to the field of laboratory medicine.

MARY BURRITT, PH.D., FACB
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Board of Directors met at the Doubletree Hotel, Rosemont, IL in Chicago last October 1-3 with Robert Dufour (President), Mary Burritt (President-elect), Mike Parker (Past-president), Catherine Hammett-Stabler (Secretary), Sue Evans (BOD), Carolyn Feldkamp (BOD), Larry Broussard (BOD), Mike Bennett (BOD), and Penny Jones (Staff liaison) in attendance. R. Christenson joined the committee on Saturday. President Dufour kept the group focused and busy throughout the weekend so much was accomplished. I'll summarize key points.

A major topic, and one to which we returned repeatedly throughout the weekend as other agenda items were discussed, related to the discussion that has begun between the Academy and the AACC. While recognizing that a closer relationship could prove beneficial to both, the Board also recognized that a number of issues, particularly those relating to governance and finance, must be carefully thought through, discussed and clarified. Several models of academies and professional societies were discussed.

Representing the Finance Committee, Charles Hawker joined the discussion via telephone. After discussion and correction of specific line items, he recommended that no changes be made to the projected income and to reduce projected conference calls expenditures to a total of \$1100. With these changes, the budget proposal put forth by the committee was approved. Several other agenda items relating to the Academy's finances included adoption of a change in the Budget Policy to reflect the goal of a neutral budget. The policy relating to the endowment funds was discussed and a revision will be considered at the spring meeting. The committee also participated in another related discussion regarding resources for fund raising.

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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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FINAL 2004 NACB MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The final NACB membership numbers for 2004 are given below. The final membership numbers for the previous 5 years are shown for comparison. The final figures for 2004 (below) show that NACB membership has decreased slightly over the past year. All Fellows that have joined since the last annual meeting will be recognized at the annual Awards Luncheon and membership meeting held in conjunction with the annual AACCC Meeting in Los Angeles.

On 9/20/2004 NACB instituted an online electronic application (http://www.nacb.org/nacb_membership.stm). This will allow distribution of the applications by e-mail reducing the cost of mailing applications to committee members. As necessary the membership committee will evaluate the electronic application process and make recommendations regarding changes.

NACB	October '99	October '00	October '01	October '02	October '03	October '04
Fellow	290	367	427	423	438	432
Associate fellow	7	6	7	15	15	13
Emeritus fellow	76	66	78	82	82	86
Honorary fellow*	8	8	8	2	1	1
Total	381	447	520	522	536	532
Percent renewal						95.09
* as of 5/1/02 only honorary fellows with contact information included						
New Fellows		92	80	23	28	19
New Associate Fellows		1	1	9	3	1
ABCC 1st year free			6			3

JOHN PETERSON, PH.D., FACB
Membership Committee Chair



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY BUDGET FISCAL/CALENDAR 2005

INCOME

Contributions Income	\$5,500.00
Awards	<u>0.00</u>
Contributions Income – Other	
Total Contributions Income	<u>\$5,500.00</u>
Dues, Membership	
Dues, New Members	1,680.00
Dues, Renewals	25,980.00
Dues, Membership – Other	
Total Dues, Membership	<u>\$27,660.00</u>
Educational Program	
2005 LMPG	
2005 AACC Contribution	10,000.00
2005 Corporate Sponsors	40,000.00
Total 2005 LMPG	<u>\$50,000.00</u>
Total Educational Program	<u>\$50,000.00</u>
Income, Legg Mason	
LM Money Market	830.00
Total Income, Legg Mason	<u>\$ 830.00</u>
Interest, Fifth Third	0.00
LMPG Monograph Sales	
Newborn	420.00
TDM	600.00
Thyroid	3,420.00
Cardiac	1,000.00
Hepatitis	960.00
Diabetes	1,640.00
Electronic Medical Record	60.00
Tumor Markers	1960.00
Total LMPG Monograph Sales	<u>\$10,060.00</u>
Registration Income,	
Awards, AACC NM	1,800.00
Total Income	<u>\$95,850.00</u>

EXPENSE

Administrative	
AACC Administration	
AACC Administration	\$28,318.00
Occupancy	1,291.00
Bank Charges	450.00
Total AACC Administration	<u>\$30,059.00</u>
Accounting	950.00
Review	2,500.00
Bonding & Insurance	1,700.00
DC Taxes	100.00
Fifth Third Bank Charges	90.00
Total Administrative	<u>\$35,399.00</u>
Award Support	
Dubin Award	2,000.00
Grannis Award	1,000.00
Distinguished Scientist Award	2,000.00
Plaques	750.00
Certificates, New Members	150.00
Distinguished Abstracts Ribbons	320.00
Presidents' Medals	0.00
Total Award Support	<u>\$6,220.00</u>
Educational Programs	
2005 Tumor Markers	2,850.00
2005 PG LMPG	4,300.00
Total 2005 LMPG's	<u>\$7,150.00</u>
Total Educational Programs	<u>\$7,150.00</u>
Governance	
Awards/Membership Meeting	4,545.00
Awards/Membership A/V	135.00
Total Awards/ Membership Meeting	<u>\$4,680.00</u>

Expenses continued next page

FISCAL/CALENDAR 2005 CONT.

Board of Directors	
BOD meetings	12,000.00
Other BOD Expense	200.00
Treasurer	40.00
Total Board of Directors	<u>\$12,240.00</u>
Conference Calls	
ESAC	200.00
Exec. Comm.	300.00
NACB-AACC Task Force	0.00
Nominating Committee	75.00
Total Conference Calls	<u>\$575.00</u>
Membership Recruitment	500.00
Total Governance	<u>\$19,120.00</u>
Professional Affiliations	
ABCC	2,500.00
NCCLS	1,560.00
NRCC	500.00
Total Professional Affiliations	<u>\$4,560.00</u>
Publications	
Homepage	
Pharmacogenomics	\$1500.00
Tumor Markers	1500.00
Total Homepage	<u>\$3,000.00</u>
Newsletter	1,280.00
LMPG Monographs	
POCT	\$6,000.00
Emergency Toxicology	5,000.00
ACS	6,000.00
Total LMPG Monographs	<u>\$17,000.00</u>
Total Publications	<u>\$21,280.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$92,604.00</u>
NET INCOME	<u>+\$3,246.00</u>

Respectfully submitted,
ROBERT M. WHITE, TREASURER

NACB AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

The National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry annually presents three awards. These awards are the Professor Alvin Dubin Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Discipline of Clinical Biochemistry, the NACB Distinguished Scientist Award, and the George Grannis Award for Excellence in Research and Scientific Publication.

The Professor Alvin Dubin Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Discipline of Clinical Biochemistry consists of a plaque and a \$2000 honorarium. The award is named in honor of the late Academy member who contributed significantly to the development of NACB and served as President in 1983-84. The award recognizes a current or past member of the Academy who has advanced the mission and stature of NACB. This award is sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics.

The NACB Distinguished Scientist Award consists of a plaque and a \$2000 honorarium. The award recognizes outstanding research advances in the field of clinical biochemistry. Individuals who have made a significant contribution to the knowledge of the biochemistry of disease or to discoveries of fundamental importance to the use of clinical chemistry techniques and instrumentation or to the application of the principles of clinical biochemistry are considered for this award. Dade Behring, Inc. sponsors the award.

The George Grannis Award for Excellence in Research and Scientific Publication Award consists of a plaque and a \$1000 honorarium. Current and past students in undergraduate, graduate, or postdoctoral clinical chemistry training programs who were enrolled sometime during the three-year period prior to the year of the award are considered candidates for this award. The award is sponsored by the NACB with additional support from the Ohio Valley Section of the AACC.

Robert Murray, PhD (Professor Alvin Dubin Award), Carole Spencer, PhD (Distinguished Scientist Award), and William Clarke, PhD (George Grannis Award), are the most recent recipients of the NACB Annual Awards.

Nominations for the 2006 Awards may be submitted via the NACB website. The deadline for nominations is December 13.

ELIZABETH FRANK, PH.D., FACB
Awards Committee Chair

HOME PAGE TO FEATURE NEW SECTION ON ACADEMY HISTORY

Charles Hawker, the NACB's Internet Coordinator, has announced that in the upcoming weeks a new section will appear on the NACB's Home Page. Tentatively called the Academy History section, it will have four main subsections. The first subsection will be an updated version of the article written by Myron Warshaw on the history of the Academy, which was published in the November 2001 newsletter. The second subsection is a reconstructed list of the Academy's officers and members of the Board of Directors from the time of our founding in 1976. This listing was developed from Academy newsletters and many other records and also by questioning a few of our older members. However, it is not quite complete, and additions or corrections would be most welcome.

A third subsection consists of copies (as pdf files) of old NACB newsletters going back to 1978. The number of newsletters included at this time is approximately 36, but an estimated 15-18 others were believed to have been issued and any members who may have copies of these in their files are asked to forward them to be scanned for inclusion. They will be returned after they have been scanned. We are grateful to Myron Warshaw for having saved so many of these newsletters and for transferring them to us when he retired, as well as to Dan Bankson, Larry Kaplan, and Roland Valdes for their submissions. Finally, a fourth subsection consists of copies of the programs of the Annual Symposia that were held by the Academy from 1977 through 1994. At this time we only have copies of four of these programs (1989, 1991, 1992, and 1994), so copies of programs from other years are also being sought.

Please mail copies of old newsletters or symposia programs to:

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Since much of this activity supports the production of the LMPG documents, a discussion ensued regarding increased involvement by the LMPG chairs and committees. It was recognized that these groups are already busy, but that their input was critical to acquiring the funding needed to cover expenses and preparation of the documents. Another proposal was to develop a mechanism of improving the recognition of corporate contributions at the luncheon.

The policy for the selection of the recipient for the Grannis Award was modified to reflect current practices used by the Awards Committee. The award was increased to \$1000, membership not required.

A significant portion of time involved a review and discussion of the strategic plan. Each of the strategic objectives was discussed and modified as needed to clarify and strengthen the role of the Academy. These will be re-written and presented at the spring meeting.

Activities at 2005 AACC: It was noted that the recipients of the Academy's awards will be announced on Tuesday at the opening Plenary. Other activities will follow on Wednesday such as the NACB Edutrak and the awards luncheon.

Finally, the board decided to conduct a membership survey in 2005.

CATHERINE A. HAMMETT-STABLER, PH.D., FACB
Report from the NACB Board of Directors Meeting

