



Association for Pathology Informatics Newsletter

January, 2010

Association for Pathology Informatics (API) Reorganization: Status Report

API has undergone many changes during the past year. The purpose of this letter is to inform the membership of the activities of the Governing Council over the past few months. The membership voted last year to allow the Council to transition API into an independent not-for-profit (501c3) organization in order to further the mission and specific aims of the API organization and to meet the needs of the pathology community for education and development of informatics and technologies related to the practice of pathology and laboratory medicine. The Council was motivated to pursue independent status for several compelling reasons, including the opportunity to manage the financial operations of API in a manner that would be fully aligned with our missions and transparent to our members. Your current council enthusiastically looks forward to aggressively growing the Association and drawing upon your knowledge, interest and participation, as the new structure gains momentum.

Progress to Date

1) API Office and Staff

In collaboration with Dr. Michael Becich and his staff in the Department of Biomedical Informatics (DBMI), the Association for Pathology Informatics has established an office at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Linda Mignogna has been appointed as API's primary staff person. Barbara Karnbauer, familiar to many API members from her involvement in APIII conferences, is Linda's backup. Charles Dizard, Executive Administrator for the DBMI, oversees staffing. Linda is helping us establish and organize the office, update the membership list and brochures, and organize our accounting structure. Our organization's address is in the footer of this newsletter.

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2) Non-Profit Status Progress

- Incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- Established an EIN Number (Tax ID Number)
- Applied for 501c3 not-for-profit status with IRS
- Established banking at Citizens Bank (current balance approximately \$13,000)
- Processing of credit card payments is now in place

3) Election

The 2010 API Council election ballot will be sent out shortly to "Sponsoring" and "Regular" members who have paid dues in 2009 or / and 2010. See Page 2 of this Newsletter. ("Associate" members (students, residents, fellows) are not eligible to vote.)

4) By-Laws Review

The Governing Council will be examining our current by-laws and sending out proposed changes for consideration by the API membership in early 2010. Some changes are necessary for incorporation and establishment as a not-for-profit organization in accordance with advice from Seth Moseby, an attorney with Martson Law Offices in Carlisle, PA whom we engaged to help us apply for incorporation and not-for-profit status.

5) API Web Site

The API Web Site is being redesigned to provide members and the pathology community in general with current information about the organizational changes and is being hosted with generous support from the University of Michigan.

6) API Listserv

After some unanticipated obstacles, the API listserv is now available for use by the membership, so **please post topics for discussion!**

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Merger of APIII and Lab InfoTech Summit Meetings

The API is very pleased to announce the merger of two major Pathology Informatics meetings:

- **Advancing Practice, Instruction & Innovation through Informatics (APIII)**
- **Lab InfoTech Summit** (formerly AIMCL)

APIII has been hosted and organized by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center under the direction of Dr. Michael Becich. Lab InfoTech Summit has been hosted and organized by the Pathology Education Consortium under the direction of Dr. Bruce Friedman. The new, combined meeting will be held in Boston in September 2010.

APIII and Lab InfoTech Summit Present
PATHOLOGY INFORMATICS 2010
September 19 (Sunday) - September 22 (Wednesday)
Boston - Westin Copley Place

The Planning Committee is developing a meeting that will appeal to clinical, imaging, and research components of pathology informatics. Additional information about this meeting will follow soon.

API 2010 Governing Council Election Nominating Committee Slate of Candidates

Given the reorganization of API, voting for the 2009 Governing Council was deferred. The API Nominating Committee has proposed a slate of candidates for the open 2010 Governing Council positions, currently uncontested.

President Elect Candidate

- Ronald Weinstein, M.D. - University of Arizona

Vice President Candidate

- Raymond Aller, M.D. - University of Southern California / Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

Secretary-Treasurer Candidate

- Philip Boyer, M.D., Ph.D. - University of Colorado Denver

Program Committee Chair-Elect Candidate

- Ulysses Balis, M.D. - University of Michigan

Training and Education Committee Chair Candidate

- J. Mark Tuthill, M.D. - Henry Ford Health System

An electronic ballot will be sent to API "[Sponsoring](#)" and "[Regular](#)" members who paid their 2009 or/and 2010 dues. ("Associate" members (students, residents, fellows) are not eligible to vote.) The ballot will allow for the entry of a write-in candidate for each position.

2010 Membership Renewal

Membership renewal statements will be sent out during the month of December and January. Please renew your membership in our organization.

This is an exciting time for API. The Governing Council will be sending out several communications over the next few weeks to keep members informed of activities that affect our growth as an organization and our continuing commitment to:

- **Promoting pathology informatics as a discipline**
- **Educating ourselves and our colleagues**
- **Developing appropriate standards for informatics and related technologies**

Please do not hesitate to contact Myra Wilkerson or other Council Members if you have any questions or suggestions about our organization. Council member e-mail addresses are posted on the API Web page.
