President’s Corner

The AABIP continues to press on with its mission of advancing the field of advanced diagnostic bronchoscopy and Interventional Pulmonology. As you will see below, each of our committees has been quite active from increasing opportunities of our members to get involved in the organization to funding promising research. We have successfully renovated our website and are continuously working on increasing its functionality. Otis Rickman (Vanderbilt University Medical Center) is our new webmaster and would love to hear from our members as to how to improve the site. We have 53 registrants for the upcoming AABIP Board Certification Exam to be given on December 1st, and we wish all those taking the exam the best of luck. The AABIP has also been working with the AIPPD and the ACCP to develop a consensus document that will outline requirements for IP Fellowship Accreditation. We hope to have this document finalized shortly after CHEST and will submit for joint publication in CHEST and the JOBIP in early 2015.

Updates from AABIP Committees

Membership Committee

AABIP Regional Chapters

At the suggestion of its members, AABIP leadership has decided to develop Regional Chapters to improve AABIP’s leadership communication with its members, increase awareness on what AABIP does and can do for its members, and increase participation of AABIP members on a local / regional front. The loco-regional chapters further the purposes of the AABIP within the United States and Canada at a state or multi-state level. Each chapter will represent a state or small group of states. Each chapter will have one leader referred to as a Representative, which will be elected by the AABIP members in that region. The resulting Council of Representatives should be the main vehicle through which the Board of Directors (BOD) communicates with the membership and in turn, the membership keeps the BOD updated regarding their needs as practicing interventional chest physicians. The standard operating procedures document that describes the goals and responsibilities of such chapters has been reviewed by the BOD, and will be referenced in the Bylaws. The Membership Committee encourages the development of local chapters if deemed necessary and agreed upon by the BOD. Interested parties should contact AABIP for more details.
The American Association for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology

2014-2015 Research Award Recipient

The American Association for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology is pleased to announce the winner of the 3rd AABIP Research Award: Dr. George Z. Cheng of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA.

Dr. Cheng is a pulmonary and critical care fellow in the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care Medicine, and the Division of Thoracic Surgery at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School. His research proposal, “use of combined vs. sequential Deoxyribonuclease and Tissue Plasminogen Activator in pleural effusions” was selected as the best proposal among several thought-provoking proposals submitted for the research award this year.

AABIP leadership encourages all young investigators to submit their new research proposals or continuation/advancement of last year’s projects in 2015-2016 via the AABIP website for the AABIP research award up to $20,000.

Upcoming Openings in AABIP leadership

At the conclusion of the CHEST meeting in October, there will be one open position for the Nominating Committee and four openings for the Research Committee of the AABIP. Individuals interested in serving on either of these committees, should contact Dr. Wes Shepherd rshepherd@mcvh.vcu.edu and let him know on which committee you’d like to serve.

Nominating Committee

Board of Directors Elections

The Nominating Committee serves to solicit and facilitate the election process of new additions to the AABIP Board of Directors and Executive Board.

The committee just recently completed the task of assisting in the process of the current Board of Directors election. Four outstanding candidates were put before the general membership for voting electronically on the AABIP website. Voting is now closed and the top two candidates (Tom Gildea and Shaheen Islam) were selected to begin their terms after the AABIP PG course at CHEST.

Of the 287 ballots sent out, 88 responded (30% response rate)! Moving forward, we encourage members to be engaged in the selection of future BOD members.

AABIP Annual Post Graduate Course in Austin, October 25th, 2014

This year’s program emphasizes on the current role of the interventional chest physicians in caring for patients with lung cancer. Topics presented will include screening, diagnosis, staging, molecular testing and palliative interventions for malignant central airway obstruction and pleural effusions. This one-day program is unique because it incorporates the following learner-centric elements:

- **Hands-on experience** including mediastinal anatomy pertinent to lung cancer staging, EBUS-TBNA specimen acquisition, navigation bronchoscopy for peripheral lung nodules, tunneled pleural catheters and argon plasma coagulation.

- **Team approach** to lung cancer diagnosis and management. This is performed through small case based interactive group discussions. These exercises provide learners with a framework for “thinking-through” a patient-based clinical scenario.

- **Learner-centric design:** two–three expert faculty will be present at each station with approximately 5 learners/station. This design assures that participants have sufficient hands on experience and interaction with faculty to address their needs.
Town Hall Meetings

AABIP is hosting quarterly ‘town hall meetings’ via gotomeeting. The 2nd meetings took place on September 30th and October 2nd.

To make it available to all interested interventional chest physicians, these calls are held at 9pm Eastern. These are open forums for our members to get updates on AABIP activities, voice comments / concerns, share ideas and get involved in the organization.

Those interested in joining, please contact Mrs. Clare Bradford at bradfoc@ccf.org.

The recent calls were attended by approximately 15 members who raised questions about how to become involved in the organization, IP Fellowship Accreditation, the job market for graduating IP fellows, as well as developing a lobbying group of the AABIP to promote topics ranging from procedure reimbursement to lung cancer screening.

We also discussed the efforts of the AABIP to create both CME courses around the country that would highlight the local AABIP members programs / institution using a standard format as well as enhance the availability of enduring material on our website.

AABIP Board Examination

The 1st AABIP Board Examination was given last December and 67 physicians received a passing grade!

This corresponds to an 89% pass rate, which is equivalent to many of the ABIM sub-specialty recertification exams.

This 1st group of Diplomates of the AABIP will be acknowledged at CHEST with a group photo on October 27th, 10:15am in Ballroom B.

The 2nd AABIP Board Examination will be given on December 1, 2014.

Registration information can be found on our website.

Available at: rdulal.blogspot.com
2nd AABIP Board Review Course

This will be held on October 24th, 2014 at the Blanton Auditorium on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. This course has been designed to provide a high level, comprehensive overview of topics within the growing field of Interventional Pulmonology. Sample topics to be covered include lung cancer screening, staging, advanced diagnostic and therapeutic bronchoscopy, malignant and non-malignant pleural disease, and emerging treatments for medical conditions such as emphysema and asthma. This course is open to current and previous graduates of Interventional Pulmonology fellowship programs as well as to practicing physicians and current fellows in training with an interest in Interventional Pulmonology. Those planning to sit for the Interventional Pulmonology Board Examination are also encouraged to attend.

1st AABIP Endobronchial Ultrasound Course

The 1st AABIP EBUS bronchoscopy course took place on July 11, 2014 at The Ohio State University. This was a fantastic opportunity for both novices as well as for those already using EBUS to improve or learn new skills in order to increase their diagnostic yield. Both radial and linear EBUS were taught in a high and low fidelity simulation environment. A total of 8.5 AMA PRA category 1 CME credit were offered. This course was endorsed by the American Thoracic Society and the World Association of Bronchology & Interventional Pulmonology. Given the success of this 1st course, AABIP plans on organizing it on a regular basis. The next venue and date will be posted on the website and in the upcoming issues of the Newsletter.

McLennan Award

For the past three years, the AABIP has awarded the Geoffrey McLennan Memorial Award for Advances in Interventional Pulmonology. Dr. Kazuhiro Yasufuku, was the 2013 recipient. Nominations for the 2014 award have been completed. The 2014 recipient will be announced at the AABIP annual meeting in Austin.
### Board of Directors

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>David Feller-Kopman, MD – President</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Momen Wahidi, MD – Vice President</td>
<td>Duke University Medical Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ali Musani, MD – Secretary Treasurer</td>
<td>National Jewish Medical Center</td>
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<td>Daniel Sterman, MD – Ex-officio</td>
<td>Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>Roberto Casal, MD</td>
<td>Baylor College of Medicine</td>
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<td>Alander Chen, MD</td>
<td>Washington University School of Medicine</td>
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<td>George A. Eapen, MD</td>
<td>MD Anderson Cancer Center</td>
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<td>Michael Machuzak, MD</td>
<td>Cleveland Clinic Foundation</td>
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<td>John Mullon, MD</td>
<td>Mayo Clinic</td>
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<td>Septimiu Murgu, MD</td>
<td>University of Chicago</td>
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<td>Cyndi Ray, MD</td>
<td>Henry Ford Hospital</td>
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<td>Wes R. Shepherd, MD</td>
<td>Virginia Commonwealth University</td>
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<td>Alain Tremblay, MDCM, FRCPC</td>
<td>University of Calgary</td>
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<td>Kazuhiro Yasufuku, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Toronto General Hospital</td>
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<td>Atul Mehta, MD (Ex-officio and Editor in Chief, JOBIP, non-voting member)</td>
<td>Cleveland Clinic Foundation</td>
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<td>Beran Rose (Industry liaison, non-voting member)</td>
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