

## **ASCP Provides an International Forum for Research in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine**

Does your team have exciting research to present about pathology or laboratory practice? The American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) has the right forum for this research to reach pathologists, pathology residents, and laboratory professionals worldwide. The poster sessions competition will take place at the 2011 ASCP Annual Meeting/World Association of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM) XXVI World Congress in Las Vegas, Oct. 19–22.

For the first time, ASCP is accepting Lab Practice Abstracts, as well as Scientific Abstracts. This year's poster competition will have a wider variety of categories for competition, such as "Best Poster by a Resident," "Best Poster Submitted from Outside the United States," "Best Lab Practice Poster," "Best Scientific Poster," and a unique "Peoples' Choice Best Poster," which will be determined by attendee votes. **The deadline to submit abstracts for the poster session competition is at midnight on April 29, 2011.** To submit abstracts starting on Feb. 1, 2011, go to <http://www.ascp.org/2011AnnualMeeting>.

"We expanded the research abstracts to include laboratory professionals to recognize their critical contributions to the laboratory team," said Kimberly W. Sanford, MD, FASCP, MT(ASCP), Chair of the ASCP Education Working Group. "We also created a poster competition that showcases the best achievements for a variety of research categories."

### **Abstract Preparation Guidelines**

A **Scientific Abstract** is a synopsis of a formal experiment that follows standard scientific method, including the objects of the experiment, hypothesis, methods, results, and conclusions related to the study. Specifically, Scientific Abstracts should contain:

- **Introduction** that clearly characterizes the scientific question being investigated;
- **Methods** and materials used to conduct the study;
- **Results** of significant positive and negative findings; and
- **Conclusion** stating the implications and significance of the data presented.

A **Lab Practice Abstract** is a summary presentation or case study describing a problem and the means to resolve that problem for improving data quality, lab process or efficiency, planning or practice management, patient care, professional development and/or certification support, and care team integration, as well as incorporating new techniques and technologies, globalizing health care or describing any other lab practice improvement. Lab Practice Abstracts should contain:

- **Introduction** that briefly describes the problem, dilemma, or case study;
- **Methods** that identify the strategy or resolution used to resolve the issue; and

- **Conclusion**, which may also include the results, that states the outcome(s) of the resolution or strategy employed.

### **General Guidelines**

- Submissions cannot have been presented, published, or submitted for presentation or publication elsewhere.
- All abstracts must be submitted electronically. Late abstracts or those received by any means other than the ASCP abstract submission Web site will not be reviewed by ASCP.
- Abstracts must be submitted in English. Submitting an abstract does NOT guarantee its acceptance at the 2011 ASCP Annual Meeting/WASPaLM XXVI World Congress. ASCP will provide notification of final status on all abstract submissions but will not identify the individual abstract reviewers.

### **Abstract Submission Topic Categories**

All the categories listed below are available to submitters of either Scientific or Lab Practice abstracts.

#### ***Anatomic Pathology***

- Cytopathology (Gynecologic)
- Cytopathology (non-Gynecologic)
- Surgical Pathology (Dermatopathology, Gynecologic, Liver, Pancreas, Renal, Bone and Soft Tissue, and Cardiovascular)
- Autopsy, Forensic Neuropathology, and Grossing

#### ***Clinical Pathology***

- Blood Banking and Transfusion Medicine
- Chemistry
- Medical Microbiology

#### ***Cross-disciplinary***

- Hematopathology (including coagulation)
- Molecular Pathology (techniques, testing, including cytogenetics)
- Certification Support
- Education Best Practices for Pathologists and Laboratory Professionals
- Global Pathology
- New Techniques and Technologies (including informatics and digital imaging)
- Practice and Quality Management
- Professional Development, Leadership, and Career Management
- Laboratory/Business Management

- Public Health Policy and Healthcare Reform
- The Patient's Clinical Team (pathologists' role working with others to treat patients or guide care)

### **Acceptance**

Abstracts that are of general interest to the membership are accepted on the basis of quality, as determined by ASCP abstract review group with expertise in the area in which an abstract is submitted. At the 2011 ASCP Annual Meeting/WASPaLM XXVI World Congress, a presenting author must be present at his/her board poster for the entire time block of the assigned poster session. Some abstracts will also be selected for oral presentation at a platform poster session.

Posters (electronic posters) will also be required for all accepted abstracts and displayed only through the ASCP Annual Meeting Web site.

### **Abstract Scoring Criteria**

These criteria will be used to rate all abstracts—Scientific or Lab Practice—

- Originality;
- Potential Importance;
- Research Design or Implementation; and
- Interpretations and/or Conclusions.

### **Submission Deadline**

All submissions must be received by midnight on April 29, 2011, at <http://www.ascp.org/2011AnnualMeeting>.