AAOMP and CAP Discuss Common Goals

The College of American Pathologists (CAP) and the AAOMP hope to work more closely together on mutual interests, reestablishing an affiliation that lapsed in recent years.

The new potential affiliation was discussed during a conference call between the officers and executives of the two organizations on July 13th, which AAOMP President John Fantasia called “a very positive interchange” and Past-President Mike Rohrer described as “extremely cordial and cooperative”.

According to Dr Fantasia, “The goal of such an affiliation would be to support the efforts of CAP related to regulatory, compliance and reimbursement issues. Such a working relationship could help our common goals.”

AAOMP hopes to participate in CAP’s annual Washington seminar in January, which focuses on legislative issues and lobbying efforts that impact the pathology profession. AAOMP might also participate in CAP’s annual continuing education program. Dr Fantasia says, “Working with their Surgical Pathology Committee as an affiliate was also suggested.

I have written a letter to the President of CAP, requesting an affiliation that would allow AAOMP to be invited to the aforementioned sessions. This request will be presented to CAP’s Board of Governors in the next few months.”

Commenting on the importance of the potential strengthened ties, Dr Fantasia said “CAP has affiliations with various pathology organizations, and they recognize that the more voices in support of various initiatives the more likely the goals will be achieved. They are aware we have the respect of our medical colleagues that we interact with on a regular basis.”

Dr Rohrer and CAP Executive Vice President Nikki Norris initiated contact between the two organizations. Dr Fantasia and Thomas Sodeeman MD, current president of CAP, followed this up with further preliminary discussions leading to the recent conference call.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I would like to look at the recent past, the present and future in an effort to bring the membership up to date regarding Academy activities.

Another successful meeting

The Kansas City meeting was successful, despite the record rainfall, with favorable numbers on the registration side and importantly excellent scientific contributions by those participating in the abstract sessions. The continuing education program and CPC sessions were also highly regarded based on session evaluations. Special thanks to John Hellstein and the CE committee for their efforts related to the Symposium and Continued Competency Assurance Program. Both continue to grow in popularity and along with the regular course offerings represent AAOMP’s main source of revenue. Memberships continued participation in these programs is appreciated and encouraged. A special thanks to Mike Rohrer, who was ultimately responsible for the success of the meeting. Mike as well as Mike Kahn, Jan Handlers and Ray Melrose helped defray the meeting costs by securing significant commercial sponsorship, recognizing that this is needed for an organization such as ours to succeed. Mike and Cecilia Rohrer were truly gracious hosts who have the knack of making everyone feel special and welcomed. Mike is the consummate family man and transmits this attribute to the oral pathology family with sincerity. We discovered he is a comedian as well. I have learned much from him, and will always be the student. Bruce Barker could not control the rain, although we were led to believe otherwise, but he did provide us with a montage of memorable AAOMP meeting photographs of years past. This was nostalgic for most and I am sure humorous as well. Oral pathologists are a motley crew, at least in front of a camera lens. The UMKC jazz band was outstanding and certainly embodied the spirit of Kansas City, as Bruce predicted. Janet and Liz, with Mike Kahn always on the ready, did their usual fine job of keeping registrants, lecturers, sponsors, coffee breaks, business meetings, breakfasts, luncheons, banquet and so much more all coordinated.

Stronger relations with other specialties and the ADA

There have been exciting new developments in forging stronger ties between the College of American Pathologists and the AAOMP. These are outlined in the cover story of this newsletter.

Drs. Murrah, Zunt and I attended the July meeting of the Dental Specialty Groups in Chicago. It is important to strengthen the specialties influence, speak as a unified voice on issues of mutual interest with the ADA, and to work on initiatives that are of benefit to the public and the profession. We have suggested that all of the specialties add links to the other recognized specialties on their individual websites. The Group also heard presentations from ADEA President James Swift regarding their initiative with the Academy for Academic Leadership to recruit and develop new dental faculty. At the DSG meeting AAOMS presented consideration of having residency programs reviewed and accredited by the American College of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The president of ACGME gave an overview of the structure and policies that govern the ACGME.

The ADA’s Council on Scientific affairs will be hosting an expert panel workshop on oral cancer screening, Chicago, Oct 31, Nov, 1, 2, 2007. AAOMP has been invited to send a representative, and I have asked John Kalmar who has agreed to attend. Mark Lingen, as a representative on the Council of Scientific Affairs will also attend. AAOMP will have a strong voice in this workshop. It will focus on clinical recommendations based on analysis of evidence presented in published systematic reviews. Mark Lingen, John Kalmar, Paul Speight and Ted Karrison, have just completed a review of such and their work has been accepted for publication; so they have an extremely good handle on the evidence as it stands.

We have written to the ADA Committee on the New Dentist, indicating AAOMP’s willingness and desire to participate in these annual sessions. Addressing clinical topics of interest to the New Dentist, and how best to use the services of our specialty would be timely and helpful to this select group.

John Sauk, on behalf of AAOMP, attended an NIH Consultation Meeting on Peer Review with Professional Societies. The purpose of this meeting was to seek input from societies, to offer specific strategies or tactics for enhancing NIH peer review and research support. Congratulations to John on his appointment as Dean, School of Dental Medicine, University of Louisville. John joins the Dean ranks with fellow oral pathologists, Catherine Flaitz, Lawrence Goldblatt, Peter Polverini, and Stephen Young.

Mike Kahn and I will be attending the ADA Recognized Dental Certifying Boards and Organizations meeting. Steve Young is Chair, Council on Dental Education and Licensure and will be presiding at this meeting. This will give us an opportunity to interact with the ADA President and President-elect among others. Harvey Kessler and Craig Fowler will be representing the ABOMP. An upcoming symposium on Integrity and Ethics in Dental Education is on the agenda. John Wright, oral pathology’s CODA representative has also informed us that CODA too will be discussing ethics as an educational mandate, potentially incorporating such into the standards. CODA on July 26, 2007, approved proposed revisions to the accreditation standards for Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. John Wright asked for input from Program Directors, prior to the revisions being made, and it is felt that the revised standards better define program objectives and content.

The Code Revision Subcommittee of the Council on Dental Benefits Program meeting of August 9, 10 was attended by Mike Kahn. This also included the preceding dental specialties organizations meeting with the ADA members of the committee and a post-code meeting among the specialty organizations.
AAOMP will be represented at the Annual ADA meeting in San Francisco, we will be present at the House of Delegates meeting, and will have an informal gathering of any of our members in attendance at the Fairmont Hotel, early Friday evening, September 28th. If any of you plan on attending the ADA session and would like to meet, drop me an e-mail. John Hellstein and John Kalmar have been invited to give a presentation on Bisphosphonate-related Osteonecrosis of the Jaws at the ADA annual session.

Save the Date: IAOP/AAOMP Meeting

While vacationing in San Francisco in June, I met with Janet Svazas and Richard Jordan at the Fairmont, Nob Hill. The hotel’s representative, Philip Chang, gave us a walk through the hotel and meeting facilities. This is a spectacular setting for the upcoming joint IAOP/AAOMP meeting June 22 – 26, 2008. The hotel offers the best of the old and new. There have been extensive restoration and renovations to this landmark hotel, preserving the historical features it is known for. The meeting rooms are quite impressive; the staff is friendly and accommodating; and the cost is reasonable given the five-star status of the hotel, the location, and the view. The upcoming meeting will begin a day later than usual, with the CE offerings beginning on Sunday and symposia and Founders seminar to follow. In addition to the reception and banquet, there will be the Residents Reception, open to all registrants on Tuesday evening, June 24, 2008. This will be held on the top of the Fairmont Towers, with a panoramic view of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge. I recommend that all fit the Residents Reception into their schedule. More details regarding the meeting will be forthcoming in the next newsletter, but save the dates June 22-26, 2008.

A brochure regarding the joint IAOP/AAOMP meeting will be up on our website shortly and we are completing on-line registration and payment capabilities. Unfortunately, the new AAOMP website is not complete, but efforts are being made to bring this on-line as soon as possible.

Gorlin Conference

The 2007 Gorlin Conference will take place October 5, 6, 7 at the University of Minnesota. This represents a wonderful opportunity for residents to learn, meet and exchange ideas with the conference faculty and staff at the University of Minnesota. Contact Mike Rohrer for further information. This is an expense free opportunity for oral and maxillofacial pathology residents, funded by the Gorlin Endowment. Mike has announced that Gary Ellis will be this year’s guest speaker, focusing on salivary gland pathology and Tim Wright will be discussing amelogenesis imperfecta. AAOMP has been in correspondence with James Rodgers, President of the National Student Research Group of the AADR informing NSRG membership about the availability of AAOMP sponsored dental student research travel awards. Mr. Rodgers informed me that prior recipients of this travel award were highly enthusiastic regarding their presentations and reception at our annual meeting.

I will relay to membership additional actions of Executive Council in the next communication, and give more details on the joint IAOP/AAOMP San Francisco meeting. If you have any questions regarding Academy activities and initiatives let me know.

John E. Fantasia

Award Winners

✦ **Shafer Award**

*Brian Shumway*, *Columbus, OH*

✦ **Gorlin Award**

*Elizabeth Andrews*, *Carrboro, NC*

✦ **Student Travel Award**

*Jessica Shireman*, *Bethesda, MD & Daniel Whitney*, *Iowa City, IA*
MEMBER NEWS

New Head and Neck Path Journal Will Be Free to Members

The new journal “Head and Neck Pathology”, by Humana Press, will be available to AAOMP members on-line at no cost.

The journal, edited by Roy Eversole and Lester Thompson, is currently found at http://journals.humanapress.com, although publication has not yet commenced.

At the end of each year, all issues will be combined into a single hard copy publication that can be purchased from Springer Publishers.

CPC 2007 Diagnoses

Case #1 - Acute idiopathic neutropenia

Case #2 - Calcium pyrophosphate dihydrate crystal deposition disease of the TMJ

Case #3 - Osteosarcoma

Case #4 - Deep fungal infection consistent with Coelomycetes in a patient with Job (Hyperimmunoglobulin E) syndrome

Case #5 - Autosomal recessive cone-rod dystrophy and amelogenesis imperfecta syndrome

Case #6 - Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma
I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new officers and council members. New additions include Susan Zunt as Vice-President. Susan knows the academy as well as anyone, being the former Director of Continuing Education. She is dedicated to the success of our organization, and will bring insight and an historic perspective. New councilors include George Gallagher and Joan Phelan; they too bring years of experience to the Council and ideas for new directions.

As president, I am required to make appointments to the standing and ad hoc committees. This is a difficult responsibility. There is no dearth of talent in our ranks and only a few positions that need to be filled. I have tried to select individuals who have participated in the activities of the Academy, bringing some new faces from membership. These are members who indicated a willingness to serve as well as those who have engaged in the scientific program recently or over the years. It is the scientific achievements of our membership that will enhance AAOMPs status in the scientific, dental and medical communities. I have tried not to over-burden some, allowing for more participation.

The Academy has saved significant sums by relying on the dedication of the Scientific Program Audio-Visual Committee. With the upcoming joint IAOP/AAOMP, I would like to expand the committee temporarily, and hopefully long-term, to help communications with our international colleagues who will be attending next year’s meeting in San Francisco. We hope that our international colleagues may return to future annual meetings as well. The new members of this committee will work closely with our seasoned members and make sure that those from abroad have all that is needed to make their abstract or poster presentations go smoothly.

Last year Mike Rohrer, the Officers and Council felt it important to establish an ad hoc committee to act as a lobbying liaison with large organizations such as the ADA and CAP that could benefit our membership. Dean White will Chair this effort and report to Council and the fellowship, how best to achieve these goals, and advance the process.
AAOMP Committees

AAOMP
President: John E. Fantasia
President-Elect: Valerie Murrah
Vice-President: Susan Zunt
Secretary-Treasurer: Michael A. Kahn
Editor: Mark Lingen (2009)
Director of Education: John Hellstein (2009)
Past President: Michael D. Rohrer

Councillors
Steven Vincent (2008)
Sook-Bin Woo (2008)
Cindy Kleinegger (2009)
Robert Kelsch (2009)
George Gallagher (2010)
Joan Phelan (2010)

AAOMP Administration
Liz Lenard, Co-Executive Director
Janet Svazas, Co-Executive Director

ABOMP Board Liaison
Harvey Kessler (October 2006-2007)
John Fantasia (October 2007-2008)

AAOMP Committees

Constitution & Bylaws
Josephine Wu, Chair (2008)
Jeffrey C.B. Stewart (2009)
Vikki Noonan (2010)
Charles E. Tomich, Parliamentarian

Long Range Planning
Brad Neville, Chair
Harvey Kessler (2008)
Jose L. Tapia Vazquez (2009)
David Wells (2010)
Liz Lenard/Janet Svazas, ex officio

Nominations Committee
Brad Neville, Chair
Michael Rohrer
Kitrina Cordell
Carla Penner
Kevin Torske

Education Committee
John Hellstein, Chair
Angela Chi (2008)
J. Craig Whitt (2009)
Lynn Solomon (2010)
Victoria Woo (2011)

Fellowship Committee
Robert Kelsch, Chair
Eleni Gagari (2009)
Ioannis Koutlas (2010)
Alice E. Curran (2011)
Indreneel Bhattacharyya (2012)

Finance Committee
Darren P. Cox, Chair
Donald Cohen (2009)
Susan L. Zunt, ex-officio
Michael Kahn, ex-officio

Laboratory Service Committee
Brad Seyer, Chair
Paul C. Edwards (2009)
Nagamani Narayana (2010)
Valerie Murrah, ex-officio

Professional and Public Relations Committee
Carl Allen, Chair
Denise Trochesset (2009)
Lan Su (2010)
Michael Rohrer, ex officio

Research and Scientific Affairs Committee
Mark Lingen, Chair
John Kalmar, Secretary
Susan Mallery (2010)
Paul C. Edwards (2011)
Faizan Alawi (2012)

Scientific Program A-V Committee
John Kalmar, Chair
John Hellstein
Michael Kahn
Yi-Shing Lisa Cheng
Ricardo Padilla
Yeshwant Rawal
Nasser Said-Al-Naief

Ad Hoc Committee on Oral Pathology Practice
Dean White, Chair
Ellen Eisenberg
Ray Melrose
John Wright

Annual Program Committee
John E. Fantasia
Valerie Murrah
Susan Zunt
Michael Kahn
John Hellstein
Richard Jordan
Lewis Roy Eversole
William Carpenter

Local Arrangements
Richard Jordan
Lewis Roy Eversole
William Carpenter
2007 Annual Meeting

Photos by: Sara Gordon, Michael Rhrer, Mihael Kahn, & Susan Zunt

AAOMP Past Presidents

Pat & Ron Baughman, Gary & Heather Ellis

Cindy Kleinegger, Kitrina Cordell, Molly Rosebush

John Wright & John Fantasia

Cecilia & Mike Rohrer

Beverly & Roy Eversole

Valerie Murrah, Elizabeth Andrews

Janet Svazas, Valerie Murrah, John Fantasia

Sook-Bin Woo, Cecilia Rohrer, Beverly Eversole

Beatriz Aldape, Nasser Said Al-Naief
IN MEMORIAM

DR. RODERICK CAWSON • Prof RA Cawson died on 25 April 2007. Professor Roderick Cawson MD, FDS RCS, FDS RCPS, FRCPath was Professor Oral Medicine and Pathology at Guy’s Hospital Dental School, London UK from 1966-86 and Emeritus Professor since retirement. He qualified in medicine and dentistry and obtained his MD from King’s College, London. He served in the British Royal Air Force 1944-8. He published many well-known research papers. He held an international reputation for excellence in salivary gland pathology and was a member of the UK Salivary Gland Pathology panel. He will perhaps be best known as a prolific author of textbooks with at least 10 books to his name, many in multiple editions. He submitted his last manuscript only a few months before his death, and was working on another when he died. He will be remembered by all those who met him as an enthusiastic and sometimes acerbic teacher with an encyclopedic knowledge of medicine, dentistry, pharmacology and therapeutics. He continued teaching postgraduates for many years after retirement and held visiting professorships including Baylor College of Dentistry, Texas. He had many contacts in the AAOMP, and hosted many colleagues from all over the world in his department over the years. He is survived by his wife Diana Cawson.

Contributed by Dr Edward Odell, London UK