

# NACCCALetter

North American Chinese Clinical Chemists Association

Volume 11 Issue 3

June 2000



## 北美華人臨床生化會員 將在舊金山相聚

### NACCCA Executive Committee:

Anna Zhou	President
Michael Ip	President-Elect
Edward P. Kang	Past President
Hsiao-Mei Wiedmeyer	Secretary
Qing Ping Jiang	Treasurer
Tai Kwong	Board Member
Tao Wang	Board Member

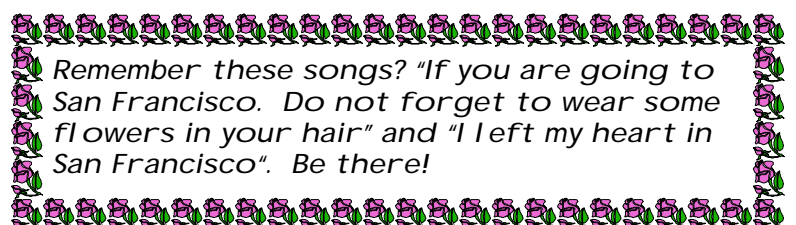
The NACCCA Newsletter is published by the North American Chinese Clinical Chemists Association. Direct all inquires and letters to Hsiao-Mei Wiedmeyer, Editor, NACCCA Letter, Diabetes Diagnostic Laboratory, Room M-767, University of Missouri-Columbia Health Center, 1 Hospital Drive, Columbia, MO. 65212. Telephone (573) 882-2705, Fax (573) 884-8823, Email: WiedmeyerH@health.missouri.edu

### Member Check List


- ✓ Send in your Vote
- ✓ membership dues
- ✓ annual banquet registration
- ✓ Idea for new Logo
- ✓ invite a friend to join naccca

The annual NACCCA membership meeting will be held as customary on Wednesday evening during the AACC meeting. Many exciting new steps have been taken by NACCCA in this millennium year. Many important issues will be discussed at the membership meeting. Do not miss this opportunity to reacquaint with your old friends and meet some new ones.


- Non-profit status is in the work for NACCCA. All donations to this non-profit organization are tax deductible.
- Membership due changes are in the planning stages. \$15/year, \$25/2 years, \$30/3 years and a possible \$100/life time membership are being considered by the executive board.
- NACCCA Website launched. Check it out at <http://www.naccca.org>. A new modern logo for NACCCA is needed. An open contest has been suggested to choose a new design which will reflect the spirit of our organization.
- A new 2000 NACCCA membership directory is in print. Thanks to 10 corporate sponsor's generous donation, this new millennium directory will be in **Color!**
- Due to fast membership growth, President Zhou has made a proposal to change NACCCA by-laws to add two new officers to the executive board. One is a historian and the other is the membership chair, each position will be for a 2 year term.
- The board will consider the by-law change and all other issues at its Executive Committee meeting on 7/23 in San Francisco Marriott Hotel immediately after the AACC mixer. All current and new officers should plan to attend. All NACCCA members are welcome.



Remember these songs? "If you are going to San Francisco. Do not forget to wear some flowers in your hair" and "I left my heart in San Francisco". Be there!



歡慶協會二十周年，欣迎龍年  
十全十美晚宴



Place: Grand Palace Restaurant 萬壽宮  
950 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, CA  
(10 minute taxi ride from Moscone Place)  
(415) 982-3705

Date: July 26 (Wednesday)

Program: 5:30 PM Registration  
6-7 PM Social Hour, Cash Bar  
7- 9:30 PM Dinner, annual meeting and free time

*Limit to 200 people, send in your reservation ASAP*



**Fax your vote to M. Ip at 216/778-5701 before June 20!**

### **Candidate for the 2000-2001 NACCCA President-Elect**

We are pleased to nominate Dr. Kwok Yeung as the candidate for president-elect. Dr. Yeung was born in Hong Kong; attended college and graduate school in the US and received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Biophysics from the University of Rhode Island. Dr. Yeung has 20-years' experience in immunodiagnostics and is currently the Senior Director of Diagnostic Oncology at Bayer Corporation. Dr. Yeung holds several patents, published extensively in peer-reviewed journals, and serves on the editorial board for Clinica Chemica Acta. As a Tumor Marker expert, he serves in the NACCCA Coordinating Committee for the first global Chinese Conference of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in the Year 2000 and Beyond since Fall 1998. He has made major contributions in fund-raising with Dr. Daniel Chan for the conference. His experience and commitment to scientific development and education will foster learning and professional communication among NACCCA members.

### **Candidates for Member of NACCCA Board of Directors**

Dr. Edward P. Kang, Ph.D., F.A.C.B., F.A.I.C., is nominated as the candidate for member of Board of Directors (BOD). This position is a two-year term in the NACCCA Executive Committee. Edward has considerable organizational experience and has provided strong leadership as NACCCA President in 1998/1999. Dr. Kang currently is a Senior Research Scientist at Bayer Diagnostic in Tarrytown NY. Previous positions includes Research Scientist at the American Red Cross Research Laboratory in Bethesda MD, Senior Scientist and Manager of Biochemistry section, R & D at Electro-Nucleonics, Inc. in Columbia MD, and Director of Clinical Studies at United Biomedical Inc. in Lake Success, NY.

Jian Ho, M.D., Ph.D. is the laboratory director of Great Smokies Diagnostic Laboratory, a 300-employee commercial lab in Asheville, North Carolina. Dr. Ho received his clinical chemistry postdoctoral training at Mayo Clinic. Prior to his current position he was Medical Director in clinical chemistry section, Walter Reed Army Medical Center at Washington DC. Jian has been our NACCCA membership committee chairman since 1998. Jian feels "It is an honor to be nominated for the board of directors of NACCCA". He plans to be actively involved in the decision making process of the association, taking advantage of his experience in working with regional chairpersons in the past year. He is also committed to help this organization grow and to continue provide needed services to our members. year. He is also com-

## **NACCCA 2000-2001 Ballot**

### **President-elect (Select One)**

Dr. Kwok-Kam Yeung



\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in Candidate of your choice)

### **Member of the Board (Select One)**

Dr. Edward Kang

Dr. Jian Ho



\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in Candidate of your choice)

### **Please return your ballot to:**

Dr. Michael P.C. Ip, Chairman, NACCCA Nominating Committee  
Department of Pathology, MetroHealth Medical Center  
2500 MetroHealth Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44109-1998

# A sneak preview of abstracts presented At ccccl m2000 hong kong

## Atherosclerosis - What Matters Most in Its Etiology

Myocardial infarction (MI) and ischemic stroke are acute manifestations of a dynamic but otherwise silent atherothrombotic process in which the etiology has been difficult to establish. Earlier studies revealed that several risk factors are of fundamental importance. This session covers the description of the overall mechanisms leading to the initiation and interplay of factors in the development of atherosclerotic lesions, and the medical usefulness of potential corrective remedies.

*Dr. Ip is currently Head of Clinical Chemistry at MetroHealth Medical Center at Cleveland, Ohio, an 800-bed county hospital serving the near-inner city of Cleveland. He is also Assistant Professor of Pathology at Case Western Reserve University and Clinical Professor of Chemistry at Cleveland State University. Currently, Dr. Ip is interested in the studies of lipids and cardiovascular diseases, cardiac markers in risk assessment, and the use of troponin in acute coronary syndromes.*

## Use of Cardiac Troponin for Risk Stratification in Acute Coronary Syndromes.

Cardiac troponin is a regulatory protein of striated muscle and consists of a complex of three proteins. Because cardiac isoforms are different from skeletal muscle, and there is a high tissue distribution in the heart, troponin assays are highly specific and sensitive for detecting minor cardiac injury in blood. In patients with unstable angina, detection of cardiac injury has significant implications for risk stratification. This is particularly important in light of new therapeutic modalities that inhibit platelets.

*Dr. Wu received his B.S. degrees from Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, and Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL. He received postdoctoral training in clinical chemistry at Hartford Hospital, and then became Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Texas, and Director of Clinical Chemistry at Hermann Hospital. In 1992, he moved back to Hartford Hospital to assume directorship of clinical chemistry, and became Professor of Laboratory Medicine at the University of Connecticut. Dr. Wu's research interest is in the area of cardiac markers and drugs-of-abuse testing. He has written over 200 articles, book chapters, and books. He directs a COMACC-approved training program in clinical chemistry. Dr. Wu is active in the American Association for Clinical Chemistry and the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry. He is currently co-editor-in-chief of Clinica Chimica Acta, the International Journal of Clinical Chemistry and Applied Molecular Biology.*

## New Approaches to the Discovery of Tumor Markers

The focus of tumor marker discovery will be on functional genomics and proteomics. The functioning of the gene, i.e. the proteins/peptides produced, are more important in the understanding of the disease process. The rapid and accurate detection of these molecules in human specimens, e.g. body fluids, cells and tissues, will lead to a greater understanding of the mechanism and lead to early detection of human diseases, and allow the design of specific treatment modalities.

Newer approaches such as gene chip and protein chip will greatly enhance the tumor marker discovery process. An example is the ProteinChip technology using Surface-enhanced laser desorption ionization (SELDI) coupled with time-of-flight (TOF) mass spectrometry. The low sample requirements, high sensitivity, 'on-chip' purification and the ability to detect multiple molecules simultaneously make this technique extremely useful for analyzing specimens that may be problematic for analytical laboratories. New tumor markers will be discovered at a rapid pace. Panels of markers could then be validated and translated into clinical use. Bioinformatics will further improve the usefulness of tumor markers for patient care.

*Dr. Wang is ABCC, FACB, Professor of Pathology, Oncology, Radiology and Urology, Director of Clinical Chemistry Division, Department of Pathology, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Maryland, USA And Principle Investigator of tumor marker research lab at Johns Hopkins Singapore, Singapore.*

## Tumor Markers' Long March: From Prototype to Clinical Use

Tumor markers' long journey from prototype to clinical use includes testing feasibility of the prototype and optimizing industrial process for reproducibility. After validation and clinical evaluation of three manufacturing lots with pre-marketing approval granted by FDA, tumor markers are available for clinical use. The focus of this presentation is tumor marker's clinical use and the development process. It is illustrated with the case of PSA, AFP and Her2/neu and a discussion of the impact of the human genome project, and challenges from patients, clinicians, laboratory scientists and IVD industry.

*Received her degree in Medicine in 1968 from Peking Union Medical College (PUMC), Beijing, China, and Ph.D. Chemistry from UMASS, Lowell, USA, in 1985. After internship in PUMC and residency in Qinghai State University Hospital (QSUH), Dr. Zhou became Lecturer/Chief Surgeon in Surgical Clinics of QSUH in 1975. After advanced immunology training at the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, she was a Visiting Research Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University Hospital of SUNY, Syracuse, NY, USA in 1979. Following research in Hematology/Oncology at Tufts, and teaching on Molecular/Cell Biology at Boston University, Dr. Zhou joined Bayer, then CIBA Corning, in 1989. As technical leader, she managed and developed assays for the ACS:180 and ADVIA Centaur, including tumor markers, reproductive hormones, steroids, and TDM with expertise in Pre-Marketing Approval for FDA. Dr. Zhou is currently Staff Scientist and Manager of R&D External Relations in Bayer Diagnostics, and President of the North American Clinical Chemists Association*

## Clinical Application of HER-2/neu

The HER-2/neu (*c-erbB-2*) oncogene encodes for a 185 kD protein that is structurally related to HER1 (EGFR), HER3 and HER4. The HER-2/neu protein is over-expressed in a number of epithelial-derived cancers including breast, lung, hepatocellular, pancreatic, colon, stomach, ovarian, cervical, prostate and bladder cancers. The extracellular domain (ECD), with a molecular weight of 105 kD has also been found in the serum or plasma of normal individuals, with elevated levels found in some individuals with various epithelial-derived cancers. Compared to tissue testing, serum testing offers the advantage of being quantitative and precise, providing a "real time" assessment of HER-2/neu status, and allowing repeat testing for monitoring.

Recently, we have shown that women with stage 4 breast cancer with elevated serum HER-2 (1) have more aggressive disease (decreased time to progression and overall survival), (2) respond poorly to hormonal therapy, and (3) can be monitored longitudinally because of the concordance of serum HER-2/neu with clinical course of disease.

*Received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Biophysics in 1979 from the University of Rhode Island. He has been working in the diagnostics industry for over twenty years, involved in various aspects of immunoassay development. In the past ten years, his work is primarily involved in the clinical validation of tumor markers. Presently, Dr. Yeung is the Senior Director of Diagnostic Oncology at Bayer Corporation responsible for the strategic direction of future oncology products. Dr. Yeung holds several issued patents. He has published extensively in tumor markers and various aspects of detection methodology. His academic involvement includes serving on the Dean's Advisory Council at the University of Rhode Island since 1994. He is a member of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the American Association for Clinical Chemistry. Dr. Yeung also serves on the editorial board for Clinica Chimica Acta.*



### Special Thanks to

- ♣ Matt Go for arranging banquet facility and selecting a wonderful menu.
- ♣ 10 corporate sponsors for their generous donation of \$5400 to our 2000 Membership Directory.
- ♣ Dr. ZX Wang for working on the membership directory.
- ♣ Michael Ip for designing the NACCCA website.
- ♣ Michael Ip and Qingping Jiang for obtaining the non-profit organization status.

# Treasurer's Report

Q1/2000 Balance Sheet (1/1/2000 - 3/31/2000)

Beginning Balance on 1/1/2000

\$6,587.77

## Incomes/Credits

Check deposits, membership fees, Jiang 3/27/2000	\$60.00
Check deposit, Great Smokies Dx, membership directory, Jiang	\$500.00
Check deposit, Bayer Corp., membership directory, Jiang	\$500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,060.00</b>

## Expenses/Debits

Check to Zhongxing Wang for "directory", Jiang 12/19/99	\$500.00
Check to Mike Ip for NACCCA Web 3 yrs registration, Jiang	\$105.00
Check to FreeServer Upgrade for 12 mo web server space, Jiang	\$71.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$676.40</b>

Ending Balance on 3/31/2000

\$6,971.37

Submitted by: Qingping Jiang, Treasurer

北美華人臨床化學協會

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