

## Long Course preface: pathology of liver and pancreas

Modern Pathology (2007) 20, S1–S2. doi:10.1038/modpathol.3800681

The Long Course at the US and Canadian Academy of Pathology Annual Meeting was first instituted in 1953 by the Program Committee (currently known as the Education Committee). The general purpose of the course was to focus on an organ system in some depth, with rotation of the topics from year to year (Table 1). The USCAP News Bulletin at that time stated 'It has been suggested that in addition to the general meeting our association offer a one day course in pathologic physiology. For example, under such a plan a course may be offered on the kidney, the lung or other organ, with 6–8 outstanding speakers invited to discuss its anatomy and embryology, its physiology, and the morphologic changes in disease, and perhaps even clinical and experimental aspects. This would not be a seminar, nor would microscopic slides be used. The course would not duplicate those offered by any other society and would extend and supplement the program. It would have the advantage of a thorough review of an organ not only with regard to its diseased state but its normal function as well. Whether such a course can be offered at the 1953 meeting remains to be seen,

but if the members are interested the Program Committee will make every effort to arrange for it.' This idea was fostered by Dr FK Mostofi, who was the Secretary-Treasurer, and carried out at the April 1, 1953 meeting in St Louis. The Secretary's News Letter, Vol. 1, No. 3 dated January 1954 stated: 'The pattern established at the 1953 meeting will be followed. It is appropriate to acknowledge that much of the success of last year's course was owed to the vigorous efforts of our excellent secretary, Dr Mostofi.'

The course quickly became a popular part of the program for the Annual Meeting, and soon after, the Long Courses were published as separate *Monographs in Pathology* (Williams and Wilkins, Publisher) through the 1996 course. In 1997, the Breast course was the first to be published as a Supplement to Modern Pathology. We are now presenting the 2006 Long Course on Liver and Pancreas.

Liver Pathology was first selected for the topic in 1954, and was the second topic chosen (obviously following lung in the order of importance to the membership, or so we, as the two course directors,

**Table 1** USCAP Long Course topics<sup>a</sup>

Year	Topic and director(s)
1953	Pathologic Physiology of the Lung – <i>Wiley D Forbus</i>
<b>1954</b>	<b>Pathologic Physiology and Surgical Pathology of the Liver – <i>Edward A Gall</i></b>
1955	Pathologic Physiology and Pathology of the Heart – <i>Jesse E Edwards</i>
1956	Pathologic Physiology and Pathology of the Erythropoietic Series – <i>Israel Davidsohn</i>
1957	Pathologic Physiology and Pathology of the Skin – <i>Elson B Helwig</i>
1958	Pathologic Physiology and Pathology of the Bone – <i>Granville A Bennett</i>
1959	Pathologic Physiology and Pathology of the Lymphocytes and Lymphocytic Tissue – <i>John W Rebeck</i>
1960	Pathologic Physiology of the Adrenal Cortex – <i>Henry D Moon</i>
1961	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Ovary – <i>Hugh G Grady</i>
1962	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Peripheral Vessels – <i>J Lowell Orbison</i>
1963	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Thyroid – <i>JB Hazard</i>
1964	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Kidney – <i>FK Mostofi</i>
1965	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of Connective Tissue – <i>Bernard M Wagner</i>
1966	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Lung – <i>Averill A Liebow</i>
1967	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Central Nervous System – <i>Orville T Bailey</i>
1968	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Skin – <i>Elson B Helwig</i>
1969	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Platelet – <i>KM Brinkhous and NF Rodman</i>
1970	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Striated Muscle – <i>Carl Pearson</i>
<b>1971</b>	<b>Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Liver – <i>Edward A Gall</i></b>
1972	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Uterus – <i>Arthur T Hertig and Henry J Norris</i>
1973	Pathologic Physiology and Anatomy of the Heart – <i>Jesse E Edwards and Maurice Lev</i>
1974	The Reticuloendothelial System: Function, Reaction and Neoplasia – <i>John W Rebeck and Coston W Berard</i>
1975	Diseases of Bones and Joints – <i>Lauren V Ackerman and Harlan J Spjut</i>
1976	Inflammatory and Neoplastic Diseases of the Gastrointestinal Tract – <i>John H Yardley and Basil C Morson</i>
1977	Recent Advances in Pulmonary Pathology – <i>William M Thurlbeck</i>
1978	Kidney Diseases – Present Status – <i>Jacob Churg, Benjamin H Spargo and FK Mostofi</i>
<b>1979</b>	<b>The Pancreas – <i>Patrick J Fitzgerald and Ashton B Morrison</i></b>
1980	Perinatal Diseases – <i>Richard L Naeye and John M Kissane</i>
1981	The Inflammatory Process and Infectious Diseases – <i>Guido Majno and Ramzi S Cotran</i>
1982	Connective Tissue and Diseases of Connective Tissue – <i>Bernard M Wagner and Raul Fleischmajer</i>
1983	The Breast – <i>Robert W McDivitt, Harold A Oberman and Luciano Ozzello</i>
1984	The Pathologist and The Environment – <i>Dante G Scarpelli and John Craighead</i>

**Table 1** Continued

Year	Topic and director(s)
<b>1985</b>	<b>The Pathogenesis of Liver Diseases – Emmanuel Farber and M James Phillips</b>
1986	Malignant Lymphoma, Leukemia and The Immune System: From Cacophony to Clarity – Costan W Berard and Ronald F Dorfman
1987	Pathobiology and Recognition of Malignant Melanoma – Martin C Mihm Jr and George F Murphy
1988	Gastrointestinal Pathology – Harvey Goldman and Henry Appelman
1989	Neuropathology Today – Pasquale A Cancilla and F Stephen Vogel
1990	The Pathology of Reproductive Failure – Frederick Kraus and Ivan Damjanov
1991	Genitourinary Pathology with Focus on Prostate and Bladder – Ronald S Weinstein and William A Gardner
1992	Thyroid and Parathyroid Glands – Virginia LiVolsi and Ronald DeLellis
1993	Pulmonary Pathology – Andrew Churg and Anna Luise Katzenstein
1994	Cardiovascular Pathology – Michael Gimbrone and Frederick Schoen
1995	Soft Tissue Pathology – Sharon W Weiss and John SJ Brooks
1996	Errors and Pitfalls in Diagnostic Cytology – Leopold G Koss and James Linder
1997	Breast – David Page and Fattaneh Tavassoli
1998	Hematopathology – Elaine Jaffe and Cheryl Willman
1999	Pathology of the Uterine Corpus and Cervix – Steven Silverberg and Mark Sherman
2000	Pathology in the New Millennium – Sylvia Asa and Allen Gown
2001	Tumors of the Head and Neck – Stacey Mills and Richard Zarbo
2002	Gastrointestinal Pathology – Donald Antonioli and Robert Petras
2003	Prostate Cancer Pathology and Pathobiology – Jonathan I Epstein and Peter A Humphrey
2004	Gonadal (Ovarian and Testicular) Pathology – Robert H Young and Thomas M Ulbright
2005	Neoplastic Dermatopathology – Bruce R Smoller and A Neil Crowson
<b>2006</b>	<b>Liver and Pancreas – Linda D Ferrell and N Volkan Adsay</b>
2007	Targeted Therapy of Cancer: New Roles for Pathologists – Marc Ladanyi and Allen M Gown

<sup>a</sup>Liver and pancreas-related topics in bold.

would like to think!!). Since that time, the liver has been a topic two times, in 1971 and 1985. Pancreas did not make it on the list until 1979 (so has been somewhat neglected by our ‘unbiased’ analysis). Thus, this course provides a timely update for both of these organs for our academy members.

As course directors, we knew that we could not comprehensively cover all the medical and neoplastic entities involving these two organs in the time allotted, and so we have tried to narrow the topics to major areas that we thought would be of interest to most practicing pathologists. For the liver, we have focused on areas of diagnostic difficulty, as well as topics with compelling recent developments or important changes since the previous courses. For the pancreas, we have attempted to highlight the most important diagnostic aspects and recent developments in the study of pancreatic neoplasia and pancreatitis. Thus, the articles in this supplement are meant to represent a focused, expert approach to problem areas in diagnostic pathology of the liver and pancreas and to provide recent and up-to-date perspectives on some of the issues rather than exhaustive reviews of the literature.

The course directors would like to thank our faculty (Drs Batts, Brunt, Goodman, Hruban, Klimstra, Kloeppel, Theise, and Washington) for their efforts in preparation of the course, for their excellent presentations at the course in Atlanta, and in preparing these final manuscripts. We think the faculty have done an outstanding

job, and greatly appreciate their hard work and timeliness in this regard. We would also like to show our great appreciation for the hard work of the USCAP office personnel including JoAnn Johnson, James Crimmins, Kerry Crockett, and Dr Fred Silva for their efforts in helping to bring this course and this supplement together. Of special note, we express thanks to JoAnn Johnson for her help collecting the history of the Long Courses for this preface.

Finally, the faculty and course directors would like to dedicate this supplement to the memory of three pathologists who contributed significantly to the study of liver or pancreas pathology: Peter Scheuer, Kamal Ishak, and Patrick Fitzgerald. Much of our current practice in the areas of liver and pancreas pathology can be traced back to these three outstanding pathologists, and we would like to remember them for their lifelong dedication and contributions to the study of liver or pancreatic pathology, their devotion to teaching and mentoring many of the younger generation of pathologists in their respective fields, and for the leadership they provided for us all. We’ll miss them.

**Linda D Ferrell<sup>1</sup> and N Volkan Adsay<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Anatomic Pathology, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA and <sup>2</sup>The Karmanos Cancer Institute and Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, USA