

CollegeNews

Members Have Free Access to the ACMG 2007 Salary Survey

The American College of Medical Genetics conducts salary surveys of the profession on a periodic basis. Access to survey findings is included as a member benefit. The Final Report of the 2007 Salary Survey can now be found in the Members Only section of the ACMG website. Non-member survey participants may contact the ACMG office at acmg@acmg.net or (301) 634-7127 for instructions on how to access the report. If you are neither an ACMG member nor a survey participant but would like to purchase the Final Report, go to the ACMG homepage at www.acmg.net and click the link for an order form.

ACMG Members Elect New Directors

Introducing Holly Wills

We are pleased to welcome Holly Wills, Administrative Assistant, as the newest member of the ACMG and Foundation staff. Holly joined us July 23, 2008 to replace Jennifer Bond who relocated to Baton Rouge, LA. She has a BA from Wright State University and recently served as a member services representative in Ohio before relocating to the DC area.

Holly will be working on the Foundation, ACMG orders/products and assisting with some of our grant projects. She can be reached by phone at (301) 634-7127 or by email at hwills@acmg.net.



Congratulations are extended to the newly elected members of the ACMG Board of Directors, who will assume their six-year terms following the 2009 Clinical Genetics Conference. They are:

Wayne Grody, MD, PhD, FACMG, *President-Elect* (UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine)

Anthony Gregg, MD, FACMG, *Clinical Director* (University of South Carolina School of Medicine)

John Mulvihill, MD, FACMG, *Clinical Director* (Oklahoma University Medical Center)

Gregory Grabowski, MD, FACMG, *Laboratory Director, Biochemical Genetics* (Cincinnati Children's Hospital)

Kathleen Rao, PhD, FACMG, *Laboratory Director, Cytogenetics* (University of North Carolina)

The willingness of all members of the 2008 slate to serve the College in a leadership capacity is greatly appreciated. Members of the 2008 Nominating Committee are:

Elaine Spector, PhD, FACMG (*Chair*)
 Tina Cowan, PhD, FACMG
 Cynthia Curry, MD, FACMG
 Soma Das, PhD, FACMG
 Marilyn Jones, MD, FACMG
 Michael Murray, MD, FACMG
 Joe Leigh Simpson, MD, FACMG
 Dayna Wolff, PhD, FACMG
 Mike Watson, PhD, FACMG (*ex officio*) and
 Melissa Forburger (*ex officio*)

All newly elected Directors and members of the Nominating Committee are Fellows of the College.

ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting Frequently Asked Questions

The ACMG will provide answers to Annual Meeting FAQs here and in upcoming issues of its newsletter, the *ACMG Medical Geneticist*, to help you plan for the 2009 meeting (March 25-29, 2009 in Tampa, Florida).

When will registration and housing open?

Meeting registration and hotel information will be available online at www.acmgmeeting.net in mid-October 2008.

What is the abstract submission deadline?

December 5, 2008. The link for abstract submission will be available online at www.acmgmeeting.net in mid-October 2008.

Important hotel reservation information

ACMG contracts with hotels up to three years in advance, allowing the College to guarantee blocks of rooms from hotel's inventories for ACMG meeting attendees. The negotiated room blocks are based on past and anticipated meeting attendance. For the last several years, the number of room blocks contracted for has been completely accurate given the number of attendees and exhibit personnel who actually attend the meeting.

Why does it seem that there are not enough rooms up until the published hotel cut-off dates or that the ACMG room block sells out earlier each year? As Annual Meeting attendance has increased in the last few years, word has spread that the hotel blocks sell out very quickly. Consequently, attendees who are unsure about their travel plans are booking hotel rooms they may not use. These attendees then cancel their reservations a few months to a few days prior to the meeting.

In the last three years, close to 30% of rooms reserved in December, January and early February were later cancelled. Those attendees trying to reserve rooms during this period often meet with the frustration of the ACMG room block being full at that time and assume that a large enough room block was not procured.

Should the rooms become available after the hotel cut-off date (about 4 weeks before the meeting), the full rate for the room is in effect – which can be as much as a \$100 per night increase for the attendee. When cancelled reservations are never re-booked, the College is contractually responsible for the difference in revenue lost by the hotels. With the goal of meeting the needs of all attendees while safeguarding the College from potential financial risk, much consideration has gone into improving this situation.

To assist with these efforts, ACMG advises attendees to assure that their plans to attend the meeting are final prior to making hotel reservations. More information will be included in the housing guidelines section on the ACMG Annual Meeting website and in the Preliminary Meeting Announcement that will be mailed to all members in October.

Mark your Calendars
2009 ACMG Annual Clinical
Genetics Meetings

March 25-29, 2009
Tampa Convention Center & Marriott
Waterside Hotel and Marina
Tampa, Florida