



Pan American Society For Clinical Virology

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TWENTIETH ANNUAL CLINICAL VIROLOGY SYMPOSIUM

The 20th Annual Clinical Virology Symposium was held April 25- 28, 2004 in Clearwater Beach, Florida. The meeting was well attended with 786 registrants participating. This included scientists from 44 US states and 21 nations. There were 92 international participants.

Participants presented 184 abstracts at 4 poster sessions and there were 59 commercial exhibits. Participation at all levels was the highest it has been during the history of the symposium. There were also 330 participants at the Molecular Virology Workshop that preceded the meeting. The scientific programs of both meetings were very well received and evaluations of all presentations were deemed “very good” to “excellent”. New features at the meeting this year included shuttle service to other hotels and free internet access to participants in the Hilton Cyber-center.

2004 PASCV Awards

Clinical Virology Award

The Clinical Virology Award acknowledges an individual whose contributions to clinical virology have had a major impact on the epidemiology, treatment or understanding of the pathogenesis of viral diseases. The Clinical Virology Award was established in 1993 and has been sponsored each year since then by Bion Enterprises.

Douglas Richman, M.D.



Dr. Douglas Richman received his A.B. from Dartmouth College and went on to receive his M.D. at Stanford University where he completed his residency. He was a Research Associate in the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases at the NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and Clinical Fellow in the Division of Infectious Diseases, Beth Israel Hospital and Children's Hospital Medical Center of Harvard

Medical School in Boston. Dr. Richman is Professor of Pathology and Medicine at the University of California San Diego and holds the Florence Seeley Riford Chair In AIDS Research. He is now Director of the Center for AIDS Research at UCSD and of the Research Center for AIDS and HIV Infections at the San Diego VA Healthcare System where he attends in infectious diseases and directs the Clinical Virology Laboratory.

His initial research in Medical Virology focused on influenza virus, herpesviruses and hemorrhagic fever viruses before the arrival of HIV in the 1980s. HIV drug resistance was originally recognized in his laboratory in

1988. In addition to his continued interest in HIV treatment and drug resistance, his research interests have focused on HIV pathogenesis including the issues of viral latency and evolution. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Association of Physicians, the American Clinical and Climatological Association, and the Infectious Disease Society of America. He is a member of the NIH AIDS Vaccine Research Working Group. Dr. Richman has authored or co-authored over 480 scientific publications. He is also co-editor of *Clinical Virology*, a state of the art clinical reference book, and editor of *Antiviral Drug Resistance*.

Diagnostic Virology Award

The Diagnostic Virology Award acknowledges an individual whose contributions to viral diagnosis have had a major impact on the discipline. The Diagnostic Virology Award was established in 1985 and since 1997, has been sponsored by Becton Dickinson.

Steven Specter, Ph.D.



Dr. Specter received his BA in biology (1969) and Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology (1975) from Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. He was a post-doctoral fellow in Experimental Immunology with Dr. Herman Friedman at the Albert Einstein Medical Center, Philadelphia, then served as Director of Clinical Virology at the same institution.

Dr. Specter joined the faculty of the University of South Florida College of Medicine in 1979 as Assistant Professor of Medical Microbiology and Immunology. He became Professor in 1991. Dr. Specter has served on numerous College of Medicine and University-wide committees. He was named the Co-Director of Curriculum and Medical Education in July, 1997, the Associate Dean for Pre-Clinical Education in 1998; he was appointed Associate Dean for Student Affairs in May, 2001. He is currently the

Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs.

He has served as Chair of the Clinical Immunology Division of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM), Editor-in-Chief of the Cumitech series for ASM, President of the Florida Branch of ASM, and was President of the Pan American Society for Clinical Virology.

Dr. Specter serves on numerous journal editorial boards and professional councils. His research spanned the fields of retrovirus-induced immune deficiency and effects of drugs of abuse on the immune system. He is the author of more than 185 original scientific publications, review articles and book chapters and has edited over a dozen books. Dr. Specter's awards include 2 outstanding teaching awards (1991, 1996) and the 1997 Theodore and Vanette Askonas-Ashford Distinguished Scholar Award from the University of South Florida.

Dr. Specter and Dr. Gerald Lancz established the Annual Clinical Virology Symposium in 1985, and Dr. Specter continues to chair this internationally renowned conference. Through the Symposium he has had a significant effect on both Clinical and Diagnostic Virology and has touched the lives of many clinical virologists through his tireless and seeming effortless work to host this meeting in Clearwater each year. With his warm smile and extended arms, Dr. Specter brings together a family of scientists, clinicians, and educators from around the world to discuss and debate the latest developments in Diagnostic and Clinical Virology. He continues to provide a wonderful forum with an open and relaxed atmosphere for the exchange of ideas and knowledge in the field; for that we are very appreciative and most thankful.

PASCV Travel Awards

PASCV provides several travel grants to selected students, postdoctoral fellows, and technologists in North America, who submit abstracts to the annual Clinical Virology Symposium. In addition, two travel grants are sponsored by Diagnostic Hybrids in honor of Drs. Edwin Lennette and Edith Hsiung. Two travel grants are awarded to winners who are Latin American residents. One of these is a special award given in memory of Dr. Mario Escobar.

Applicants from other areas of the world may be considered if the request is need-based, and if money is available.

To be eligible, the applicant must be the presenter of a poster, at any level other than faculty. Preference will be given to individuals who have not previously been selected. Winners are not eligible to re-apply for a minimum of 3 years.

2004 PASCV Travel Awards Recipients

Edith Hsiung Award

(Sponsored by Diagnostic Hybrids, Inc).

Kristin Hokanson, University of Minnesota and Fairview University Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN

Abstract title: A PROSPECTIVE QUANTITATIVE STUDY OF THE CLINICAL AND VIROLOGIC EVENTS IN ACUTE INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS

Edwin Lennette Award

(Sponsored by Diagnostic Hybrids, Inc).

Roberta Walle, Provincial Laboratory for Public Health, Calgary, Alberta Canada

Abstract title: EVALUATION OF COMMERCIAL WNV IgM/IgG KITS DURING THE ALBERTA WEST NILE OUTBREAK

Mario Escobar Award

(Sponsored by the Clinical Virology Symposium and Presented by Dr. Steve Specter, CVS Chairman).

This award is usually given to the outstanding author from Latin American. Because we did not have a Latin American submission, it was awarded to the top foreign abstract that was from other than North America.

Mustafizur Rahman, Centre for Health and Population Research, Mohakhali, Bangladesh and Laboratory of Clinical and Epidemiological Virology, Rega Institutue for Medical Research, University of Leuven, Leuven Belgium

Abstract title: CHARACTERIZATION OF A NOVEL [P24], G11 HUMAN GROUP A ROTAVIRUS

Jared Castor, Molecular Virology Laboratory, Department of Laboratory Medicine, University of Seattle, Washington,

Abstract title: GANCICLOVIR RESISTANT CMV: RAPID SEQUENCING TO IDENTIFY RESISTANT MUTATIONS IN THE UL97 GENE FROM DIRECT PATIENT SAMPLES (SERUM OR PLASMA).

Corinne Forbes, Warde Medical Laboratory, Ann Arbor, MI,

Abstract title: LOW-END REPRODUCIBILITY IN THE MODIFIED HPV HYBRID CAPTURE II ASSAY AND THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF AN "EQUIVOCAL" RANGE

LeTanya Johnson-Lewis, Department of Pathology, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, MD.

Abstract title: COMPARISON OF VERSION 1.0 AND VERSION 1.5 ULTRASENSITIVE AMPLICOR HIV-1 MONITOR TEST IN SUBJECTS WITH LOW VIRAL LOADS

Margaret Ann Casey, Michigan Department of Community Health, Lansing, MI.

Abstract title: IDENTIFICATION OF RHINOVIRUS IN SARS SURVEILLANCE TESTING AT A STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

Tom McMillan, Provincial Laboratory for Public Health (Microbiology), Alberta, Canada

Abstract title: EVALUATION OF "REAL TIME" NASBA AND RT-PCR ASSAYS FOR DETECTION OF INFLUENZA A IN CLINICAL SAMPLES

Ryan Jensen, ARUP Laboratories, Inc. Salt Lake City, UT

Abstract title: COMPARISON OF IMMUNOFLUORESCENCE STAINING FOR ENTEROVIRUSES WITH CHEMICON PAN-ENTEROVIRUS BLEND AND DAKO IMAGEN ENTEROVIRUS STAINS IN SHELL VIAL CULTURES

Pankaj Kumar, University of Delhi, Delhi, India.

Abstract title: EFFECT OF QUERCETIN SUPPLEMENTATION ON ANTIOXIDANTS OF LUNG AFTER EXPERIMENTAL INFLUENZA VIRUS INFECTION Withdrawn. Recipient could not attend CVS

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2004-2006

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The officers and councilors welcome suggestions and comments concerning the PASCV. The Newsletter is intended to be a forum for exchange of views and information that will be beneficial to the membership. In particular, the experiences of members with reagents, techniques, and new products applicable to rapid viral diagnosis are solicited and will be published in the Newsletter

PAN AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL VIROLOGY MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Renewal of Membership _____ \$25 New Member (\$25 or \$250) _____

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Please make checks (U.S. dollars only) payable to PASCV.

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