

## **Friends of Africa-USCAP Initiative 2011 - 2012 update**

In the past year, we have continued to make progress on the phase I and phase II goals of the FOA-USCAP initiative.

### **Phase 1 - To provide access to educational materials in the form of hard copies of journals, e-Journals and USCAP journal / web site access etc.**

In pursuance of the phase I objectives, copies of the following journals are continuing to be mailed to 65 institutions in sub-Saharan Africa. These include:

- (i) Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; Courtesy of the Editor, Phil Cagle, M.D. and publisher, CAP
- (ii) Human Pathology, Courtesy of the Editor Ricardo Floyd M.D., Ph.D. and Elsevier publishers
- (iii) Journal of Developmental and Pediatric Pathology – Courtesy of Society for Pediatric Pathology
- (iv) Modern Pathology, Courtesy of the USCAP
- (v) Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology, Courtesy LWW – publishers and the American Association of Neuropathologists

### **Changes in subscriptions:**

(vi) In 2011, there was a reactivation of the 65 subscriptions for the American Journal of Clinical Pathology to 65 institutions – Courtesy of the Global Pathology Institute of the American Society for Clinical Pathology and director, Phil Castle PhD.

The executive of the American Association of Neuropathologists approved an increase in the number of subscriptions for the Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology from 30 - 60.

### **Phase II - To assist in the provision of programs of continuing medical education in the form of (a) pathology updates, conferences, seminars and annual pathology courses (b) short week-long or weekend training seminars for technologists, as well as (c) collaborative projects within Africa and outside Africa**

In pursuance of the **Phase II goals**, the organization carried out the following activities:

In collaboration with the West African Division of the International Academy of Pathology, the **6th Annual Scientific conference** of the division was held in Abuja, Nigeria from August 22 to 26, 2011. The theme of the conference was: **The role of pathologists in prevention, diagnosis and prognostification of cancers**

Attending faculty included the following:

**Zelma Cason**, Associate Professor, School of Cytotechnology, University of Mississippi, Jackson, MS

**Dr Terri Longacre**, Professor of Pathology, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

**Francisca Nkadi**, Cappella University, USA

**Dr Wole Ajagbe**, Adjunct Professor of Oral Pathology, Howard University, Washington, DC

**Dr Adekunle M. Adesina** - Professor of Pathology and Immunology, Texas Children's Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

### **Pathology in the tropics at the 2012 IAP congress in Capetown, South Africa.**

The action committee of the FOA-USCAP submitted a proposal for a short course entitled "**Pathology in the tropics**" at the 2012 IAP congress. This submission was accepted and approved by the planning committee.

### **New support for the FOA-USCAP initiative:**

Effective immediately, the Department of Pathology, Texas Children's Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX has offered to provide support to cover the cost of mailing the above described journals.

The Office of the Associate Dean for Education, Baylor College of Medicine, under the direction of Dr J Goodman, donated books to the FOA-USCAP initiative for onward delivery to individuals / institutions in Africa who may benefit from the use of the books. Some of these books were hand delivered in Namibia during the last visit of Dr Smoller (Executive Vice President, USCAP) to Namibia in 2011

### **New collaborative outreach initiatives**

The FOA-USCAP is collaborating with the ASCP, the British division of the IAP, as well as a number of individual pathologists to organize a comprehensive outreach effort that will focus on enhancing the practice of pathology in sub-Saharan Africa. The initial efforts are focussed on initiating a dialogue / information gathering from stakeholders. It is hoped that such information, as well as data obtained from pathology practice groups and institutions in the continent will provide a framework for further action. In this regard, a whole day session for deliberation on pathology issues in Africa is scheduled for the IAP congress in 2012.

Prepared by:

Adekunle M. Adesina, M.D., Ph.D., FCAP, FMCPATH

Coordinator, FOA-USCAP

Professor of Pathology, Immunology and Pediatrics-Hematology/Oncology

Director, Neuropathology and Molecular Neuropathology

Texas Children's Hospital

Baylor College of Medicine

One Baylor Plaza, Rm 286A Houston, TX 77030