The 20th annual meeting of the NASHNP was held at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel in Seattle, WA. Approximately 50 people were in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM, Sunday, March 13th, 2016 by the President, Dr. Mary Richardson.

The minutes of the previous (19th) annual meeting held on March 22, 2015 in Boston, MA, were briefly addressed by the President and by the Secretary Dr. James Lewis.

Dr. Mary Richardson, the President, gave a warm welcome to the members in attendance. She thanked Dr. Mark Wick in absentia for organizing the scientific session for the Companion Meeting of the 2016 USCAP. He was not able to moderate the session due to illness, and she filled in as moderator for the actual activity. The Companion Meeting took place March 22, 2015 in the Convention Center from 1:30 to 5:00PM. Acknowledgement and thanks were given to the Symposium Speakers Dr.’s Vania Nose, Scott Granter, Dmitry Kazakov, Peter Sadow, and Jennifer Black for their excellent presentations and for providing corresponding review papers for publication in Head and Neck Pathology.

Secretary’s Report (Dr. James Lewis):

The secretary announced that the awards had been increased for this year to 300$ for Poster and 500$ for Platform, to further encourage trainee submissions and activity, but also to further incentivize getting the best platform award.

The secretary announced the judges for the 2016 awards:

1- Leon Barnes award for best Poster for pathologist-in-training: Judges: Dr.’s Liz Bilodeau, Bob Robinson, Martin Bullock

2- Vincent Hyams award for best Platform for pathologist-in-training: Judges: Dr.’s Joaquin Garcia, Beverly Wang, Alena Skalova

And announced the prior winners of the Hyams and Barnes award for 2015:

The Leon Barnes Award Best Poster Presentation:
Aurelia Busca, M.D.


Lindsay Williams, M.D.

The predominance of apocrine morphology and androgen receptor positivity in 204 cases of salivary duct carcinoma. L Williams, LDR Thompson, I Weinreb, A Assaad, M Tuluc, N Ud Din, B Purgina, C Lai, C Griffith, R Seethala, S Chiosea.

The Vincent Hyams Award Best Platform Presentation:

Lisa Rooper, M.D.

Transcriptionally-active human papillomavirus is detected by RNA in situ hybridization in most discordant oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinomas that are p16 positive by immunohistochemistry but high risk HPV negative by DNA in situ hybridization. L Rooper, P Illei, J Bishop, W Westra.

He then read the list of new trainee, regular, and emeritus members for 2015 to the participants for their approval. There were no objections raised.

President’s Report (Dr. Mary Richardson):

She began by mentioning the WHO Blue Book, that edits were complete and that the book was expected to be published in 2017. In addition, she mentioned that the coming year will represent the 20th anniversary of NASHNP and discussed the possible topic of neuroendocrine tumors.

Next, she discussed the issue of a perineural invasion interobserver variability study that had been initiated at the University of Rochester that was specifically designed to query the membership of NASHNP about this. The executive council of NASHNP have concerns since none of the study team are members of NASHNP and that the results might be construed later on as reflecting either the position of NASHNP or as practice recommendations of NASHNP members without any of the society officers or members being a part of the research or writing. It was suggested that we either decline to be involved or figure out how to be able to be involved with the research and review and possibly revise any publication that might come from this work if needed. The members generally agreed with the concerns and some ideas were put forth.
Next, she discussed the issue of NASHNP sponsored consensus panels for topics of difficulty in head and neck pathology, akin to White Papers and other consensus panels held by other societies, in order to provide recommendations for terminology and classification of head and neck lesions. The first idea put forth was verrucous lesions. The membership was asked for their ideas or comments. This will continue to be discussed and a concrete plan for how it would practically work through the NASHNP membership and executive council was decided to be formulated.

Finally, the President remarked that this was her final year of her term and she was thanked for her excellent service. Susan Muller, the current Vice President now will become the President.

The nominating committee of Manju Prasad, Bruce Wenig, and Lester Thompson put forth Michelle Williams MD as the new Vice President, and this was agreed upon by membership and accepted by Dr. Williams.

Treasurer’s Report for the Financial Year 2015 (Dr. Rebecca Chernock)

Membership:
We have 287 members in our membership directory (268 at this time last year). Total paid for 2016 (so far): 97 (119 have updated contact information) [Total paid members for 2015: 128]
Emeritus Members: 8
Resident Members: 41

Note: User name and password for HNP Journal (member access) is changing annually. The new user name and password already works and the old one will become inactive after the USCAP meeting. The new username and password is given out to renewing members. Emeritus and resident members just need to update their contact information to get new user name and password.

Assets:
As of January 8th 2016, the Society had $30,264.36 in business checking and Paypal accounts. Starting balance on January 2nd, 2015 was $28,959.04. [+1305.32 for the year] Current account balance (as of March 1st 2016): $31,723.86

Disbursement in 2015:
Residents’ award for poster and platform presentation: $750 ($250 each, 3 awards tie for best poster)
Reception: $4409.1
Head and Neck Pathology Journal Support: $4960 ($40 per paid member as of May 2015)
Webmaster and web maintenance fee: $1458 (past several years)
Total: $11,577.10
Journal Update (Dr.’s Lester Thompson and Susan Muller, Co-Editors):

Dr. Thompson addressed those present on behalf of the journal. The journal has entered its 10th year of publication. The journal continues to do well, having a steady number of publications, an increasing rejection rate, and a stable number of scientific/original research publications. It again hopes to receive an impact factor officially this year. In 2016, the January issue was dedicated to an update on sinonasal tract pathology with guest editors Drs. Justin Bishop and Alessandro Franchi. The next special edition will be on WHO updates from the 2015-16 version of the classification/blue book, with the guest editor to be Dr. Raja Seethala. The proceedings from the Companion meeting will be published in the June issue of Head and Neck Pathology, however, the papers will be online first beginning right after the USCAP meeting. A brief presentation was given to the members.

International Societies Relations: Head & Neck Working Group of ESP:

Dr. Mary Richardson took the opportunity to recognize our European colleagues and to acknowledge the European Working Group leadership including Dr. Alessandro Franchi.

Dr. Franchi graciously accepted the invitation to update the NASHNP members on the ESP by provided a brief update on matters with the ESP European Congress of Pathology which will be held in conjunction with International Congress of the IAP on the 9/25/16 to 9/29/2016 in Cologne, Germany. He encouraged members to attend the upcoming meeting in Cologne, Germany. He also mentioned that the program of the Head and Neck specialty will include a Course on the new WHO Classification, a Symposium on Targeted Treatments in Head and Neck Cancers, a joint session with the Infectious Diseases Working Group, and a Slide Seminar.

The meeting was adjourned at ~7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James Lewis, M.D. (Secretary)

Notes added after the meeting:

NASHNP Pathologists’-in-Training awards at USCAP, 2015: Platform winner and poster winner received $500 and $300 checks, respectively, and certificates from the Society.
The Leon Barnes Award Best Poster Presentation:

Lisa Rooper, M.D.
Nuclear b-catenin expression provides a consistent immunohistochemical correlate for PAX3 rearrangements in biphenotypic sinonasal sarcoma
Lisa M Rooper, Shih-Chiang Huang, Cristina Antonescu, William H Westra, Justin A Bishop. Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD; Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY.

The Vincent Hyams Award Best Platform Presentation:

Aaron Udager, M.D. Ph.D.
Activating KRAS Mutations Are Characteristic of Oncocytic Sinonasal Papilloma and Associated Sinonasal Squamous Cell Carcinoma
Aaron Udager, Raja R Seethala, Evgeny Yakirevich, Jonathan McHugh, Bryan Betz, Megan S Lim, Kojo Elenitoba-Johnson, Noah Brown. University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI; University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA; Rhode Island Hospital and Brown University, Providence, RI; Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.