

ASP President's Welcome Message

"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity." – *Amelia Earhart*



Thank you for nominating me to lead your organization as of August 2021. I have been a member of Arizona Society of Pathologists since 2001 when I moved to Tucson and have served in various capacities, namely, as CAP State Path Society Liaison, Chair of CME Planning Committees and as President-Elect for the last two years. I accept this new role with great humility and a deep sense of responsibility.

I sincerely believe ASP's future will be determined by our collective vision for the organization and by our struggle to make them real. We need to "Provide Value." ASP is here to serve, promote and represent your best interests, especially in the areas of education, advocacy and outreach. Our society is there to lobby on behalf of us pathologists and speak for us to elected officials about regulations, laws and other matters that concern us and our patients. We do our best to represent our specialty before legislatures and regulators, formulating and implementing strategies accordingly, but we need your input and participation to do it right!

We should think inclusively about our own members' concerns and interests. A lot of us within ASP can be "role models" to our resident members and "new in practice" members. With a little bit of creative thinking and hard work, our services should inculcate right attitudes and skills in the younger generation that will frame ASP's future, besides, it will make us hold ourselves to high standards.

I invite our young, enthusiastic members to bring their energy and intuition, help enrich ASP and provide new directions. ASP is dependent on the efforts of generous volunteers whose collective intellectual horsepower will help this organization grow. Fundraising in the form of membership dues and support from our generous sponsors is an important issue and is critical to make ASP durable. The key reason for the success of our state society is because of our dedicated board and I am thankful to them. Moving forward, together, we plan to do some strategic thinking and planning with the academic and community pathologists in mind. We need to make time to do some objective analysis. We need to revive our website as well as our newsletter.

While Zoom learning has its place, nothing beats personal experience. Our first Annual Hybrid CME Meeting on November 13th promises to be a treat! I hope each of you can attend either through Zoom or better still in person. Learning from visionaries of our specialty is a real privilege. Peer networking is critical. Personally, I have benefited a lot from meeting people who have offered straightforward insights of the kind that can come only from first-hand experience.

As I begin my tenure as President of ASP, I would like to thank Richard Eisen, MD, my predecessor, for his outstanding leadership and service. Talking about Dr. Eisen reminds me of many outstanding pathologists of our state who have put their shoulders to the task of pushing our specialty forward and advocating for our practice. I am honored and glad to serve ASP. I look forward to making a contribution to the ASP mission and the community at large.

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