Molecular Virology Workshop
The 21th Molecular Virology Symposium, sponsored by PASCV, will be held April 26, 2014 at the same venue as the CVS. For program information, go to http://www.clinicalvirologysymposium.org/index.php/workshops

Clinical Virology Symposium
The 30th Annual Clinical Virology Symposium and Annual Meeting of the Pan American Society for Clinical Virology will be held April 27 – April 30, 2014 at the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront, Daytona Beach, FL. The Symposium will feature:

- Three plenary sessions
- Three poster presentations of submitted abstracts
  - One panel discussion
  - Case presentations
  - Informal sessions
  - Exhibits
- Banquet presentations Monday April 28
  - Clinical Virology Award (Sponsored by MBL-Bion)
  - Diagnostic Virology Award (Sponsored by Becton Dickinson)
  - Young Investigator Award

For program information go to http://www.clinicalvirologysymposium.org/index.php/workshops

PASCV Business Meeting Sunday April 27th 3:30 PM, Lecture Hall.

Message from the President of PASCV
Dear PASCV Members,
Happy almost Spring, enough of this snow! I hope everyone will have a healthy and a prosperous year in 2014.

I would like to introduce and welcome Jess Warner as the first staff member of the PASCV. Jess formerly worked for the ASM prior to her relocation to North Carolina. We are very fortunate to have the part time assistance of Jess. She has already been a great support for Council activities, including membership retention and recruitment, society communications, website updates, and for maintaining sponsor support for our activities.

This year we will see the first step in our transition of the Molecular Virology Workshop to a one day meeting and the transition of the Clinical Virology Symposium to ASM. ASM has been a terrific resource for this transition and we look forward to continuing the collaboration.

Clinical Virology Symposium
For the last 30 years Dr. Steven Specter and all his terrific staff (Thank you very, very much Sandi and Shannon!) have worked diligently under the sponsorship of the
University of South Florida to develop the Clinical Virology Symposium into the “premier” Clinical Virology meeting. In conjunction with the Molecular Workshop, run by Drs. Rick Hodinka and Danny Wiedbrauk, the annual meeting has grown to more than 1000 participants. Both meetings provide the latest insights into outstanding basic science, clinical medicine, innovative technologies and practical issues for all level virologists.

Commencing in 2015, CVS will become an American Society of Microbiology (ASM) fully sponsored meeting. During 2012 and 2013, Dr. Steven Specter and the PASCV Council has and in 2014 will continue to work closely with ASM to ensure a successful transition of the meeting. Our intention is to maintain the great scientific scope while preserving our beach life informality. In addition, we want to preserve the collegial interaction with the vendors and the openness of communication between all the CVS participants. Our goal is to make this transition seamless to our participants. CVS will not become a part of the ASM general meeting. However, ASM will work with CVS delegates to plan the logistics, format and scientific content of the annual meeting. Dr. Specter will initially assume the role of Chair of the Program Committee.

The PASCV would like to sincerely thank Connie Herndon and her team from ASM for their continued and invaluable support through this transition. An update on the transition will be discussed at the PASCV Business meeting. We encourage all of you to attend so that you will have ample opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions.

Molecular Workshop
After 21 fabulous years, Drs. Rick Hodinka and Danny Wiedbrauk, with the support of Dr. Steve Young, will “retire” from running the Molecular Virology Workshop. The Workshop now has a new one day format under the direction of the PASCV program committee, which includes Drs. Randy Hayden (St Jude’s Children’s Hospital), Melissa Miller (University of North Carolina) and Matt Binnicker (Mayo). The future (2015) format of the workshop and the sponsorship of the workshop (PASCV or ASM) are currently in discussion and we will appreciate your thoughts and comments regarding this year’s program.

In the future we will consider other collaborations with ASM beyond the annual meeting, such as policy and professional practice issues. We have discussed working with ASM to provide high impact educational activities such as workshops (potentially even live, regional workshops) and teleconferences.

PASCV and CVS are very dear to all of us and an integral part of our close network. We all want to keep the meeting as we know and love. You have the Council’s promise to work hard to make this possible.

It has been my pleasure serving as the President of PASCV. See you in Daytona.

Sincerely;
Christine C. Ginocchio
President PASCV

Winners of the 2014 PASCV Awards
With great please I am pleased to announce the following winners of the 2014 awards:

Clinical Virology Award:
Dr. Angela M. Caliendo

Angela M. Caliendo, MD, PhD received a PhD (Biochemistry) and MD from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, MA and an Infectious Diseases fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston MA. After completing fellowship training she joined the faculty at the MGH as an assistant director of microbiology with responsibilities for the clinical virology and molecular diagnostics sections of the laboratory. In 1999 she joined the faculty at
Emory University School of Medicine, initially as the Medical Director of the Microbiology and Molecular Diagnostics Laboratories and later became the Director of Emory Medical Laboratories, and Professor and Vice Chair of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. Dr. Caliendo is currently Professor and Executive Vice Chair of Medicine and Director of the Division of General Internal Medicine at Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Dr. Caliendo's research has focused on several areas of molecular virology including, evaluation of HIV-1 RNA burden and the development of antiretroviral resistance in the plasma and cervical secretions of HIV-1 seropositive women; quantitation of CMV burden in body fluids and evaluation of the role of resistance and viral load in the clinical failure of anti-CMV therapy; development and establishment of the clinical utility of molecular diagnostic tests for various infectious diseases.

Dr. Caliendo was the Co-Chairholder of the CLSI Subcommittee on Quantitative Molecular Diagnostics for Infectious Diseases and served as a member of the CLSI Subcommittee on Genotyping for Infectious Diseases, and an Advisor on the Subcommittee on Antiviral Susceptibility Testing. In 2004, she served as the President of the Association of Molecular Pathology and then as a member of the Professional Relations Committee. She is currently Past-President of the Pan-American Society for Clinical Virology and serves as a member of the Professional Relations Committee. She is a Fellow of the American Society for Microbiology, a Fellow in the Infectious Diseases Society of America, and is a Virology Section Editor for the 9th, 10th and 11th Editions of the Manual of Clinical Microbiology and has published over 125 peer-reviewed manuscripts covering various topics in clinical and diagnostic virology and microbiology.

Diagnostic Virology Award
Dr. James Mahony

James Mahony received a Ph.D. in Developmental Biology from the University of Toronto in 1978. He then accepted a Medical Research Council Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Banting and Best Institute at the University of Toronto where he worked on a Rabies vaccine. In 1980 he joined the Consulting Staff at St. Joseph's Healthcare in Hamilton as a Clinical Virologist and was appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology & Molecular at McMaster University. In 1993 he became Head of the McMaster University Regional Virology & Chlamydiology Laboratory at St. Joseph's Healthcare and was promoted to Full Professor at McMaster.

Dr. Mahony is board certified by the Canadian College of Microbiology (F.C.C.M.) and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology (F.A.A.M). He served as Chair of the McMaster University's Biosafety Committee (2000-2004) and has served on several hospital and university committees including the Joint Intellectual Property Committee. He served for five years as Chair of the Virology Committee for the Ontario Medical Association's Laboratory Proficiency Testing Program. He was President of the Canadian Association for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (1990-1992) and Founding President of the College of Clinical Scientists of Ontario. In 2010 he was appointed Assistant Dean of Medical Sciences Graduate Program, the
largest Graduate Program at McMaster University.

Jim served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Pan American Society for Clinical Virology (PASCV) from 1989-1996, President Elect (2002-2004) and as President from 2004-2006. Between 1983 and 2005 he organized PASCV workshops in Aspen, Buenos Aires, Cordoba, and Phoenix. Over the past 20 years the McMaster University Regional Virology & Chamydiology Laboratory has hosted visiting scientists from several countries for training in molecular diagnostic techniques.

He has been a member of several professional societies and has served as a member on two NCCLS Subcommittees for Antiviral Susceptibility Testing and Viral culture. He has served on the Editorial Boards of several journals and has been a member of several grant review committees for national and international agencies. He has served on Clinical and Scientific Advisory Boards and been a consultant for over ten diagnostic and pharmaceutical companies. Dr. Mahony has co-authored over 270 peer reviewed articles and book chapters.

The focus of his research is the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of viral and Chlamydial infections. In 1989 he developed the first PCR test to detect C. trachomatis in urine. In 2005 he developed a multiplex PCR test for the detection of 20 respiratory viruses (xTAG® RVP Assay, Luminex) which is now in use worldwide. He developed the first PCR tests to monitor the SARS outbreak in Toronto in 2004 and the pH1N1 outbreak in 2009. He also developed a SARS vaccine and is currently working on a chlamydial vaccine. Last year he incorporated a McMaster spin off company called Advanced Theranostics that is working on therapeutic proteins for influenza, RSV and chlamidia together with a hand held point-of-care molecular diagnostic device using isothermal amplification that will provide specimen-to-result diagnosis of viral and bacterial infections in 20 minutes. Jim has attended the last 29 CVS meetings and is an avid golfer, boater, ultralight pilot and motorcyclist.

Young Investigator Award:
Dr. Matt Binnicker

Matthew J. Binnicker, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. He serves as the Director of Clinical Virology at Mayo Clinic in the Division of Clinical Microbiology, and is a Diplomate of the American Board of Medical Microbiology. Dr. Binnicker received his doctorate in Microbiology from the University of Iowa, where he studied the interaction of Neisseria gonorrhoeae with male urethral epithelium. His work demonstrated that the gonococcus alters the expression of host cell genes and proteins that regulate programmed cell death, and by doing so, delays apoptosis in urethral epithelium.

Following his graduate training, he completed a postdoctoral fellowship training program in Clinical Microbiology at Mayo Clinic. Subsequently, he served as the Director of the Infectious Diseases Serology laboratory at Mayo Clinic and now directs the Clinical Virology lab. Dr. Binnicker's research focuses on the development of new molecular techniques for the diagnosis of viral infections. His lab is currently evaluating the use of Next Generation Sequencing for the detection and identification of drug resistance mutations in herpes simplex virus and cytomegalovirus. In addition to his role as a laboratory director, Dr. Binnicker serves as the Associate Director for the Post-Doctoral training program in Clinical Microbiology and Public Health at Mayo Clinic. In 2014, he assumed the responsibility of Co-Chair for the annual Molecular Diagnostics Workshop held prior to the Clinical Virology Symposium, and Dr. Binnicker also Co-Chairs the Molecular Diagnostics Teleconference series sponsored by the American Society for Microbiology and Roche Diagnostics.

Dr. Binnicker is a member of the American Society for Microbiology and the Pan American Society for Clinical Virology. He serves on the editorial board for the Journal of Clinical Microbiology and has been an invited member of ad hoc study.
sections for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Binnicker has authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications, review articles or book chapters.

**Congratulations: 2014 Travel Awards**

**Mario Escobar Award:**  
Débora Natalia Marcone

**Herman Friedman Award:**  
Ramatoulaye Bah

**Edith Hsiung Award**  
Kanti Pabbaraju

**Edwin Lennette Award**  
Ahmad Mahmoud

**PASCV Latin America Travel Award**  
Patricio Acosta

**PASCV Travel Awards**  
Latika Saxena  
Khushdeep Chahal  
Cara Clementi  
Kelly Wahl  
Kimberly Bufton  
Andrea Granados  
Richa Kapoor

**Results of 2014 PASCV Elections**

**President Elect (16):**  
Alex Valsamakis, M.D., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor Pathology, Director of Clinical Virology, Director of Molecular Microbiology at The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

**Elected Council Members: (18)**

**Melissa Miller, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Director, Clinical Molecular Microbiology Laboratory  
Associate Director, Clinical Microbiology-Immunology Laboratory  
UNC School of Medicine

**Benjamin Pinsky, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Medical Director, Clinical Virology Laboratory for the Stanford Hospital & Clinics and the Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital, Assistant Professor of Pathology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases

**Matthew Binnicker, Ph.D.**  
Director of Clinical Virology at Mayo, Associate Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology.

**Susan Novak-Weekly, Ph. D.**  
Director of Microbiology  
Kaiser Permanente  
SCPMG Regional Reference Laboratories

**Newsletter Editor:**  
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Director of the Molecular Virology Laboratory at the University of Washington Dept of Laboratory Medicine, and Research Scientist in the Vaccine and Infectious Diseases Division, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle Washington.

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Hubert Niesters, Ph.D.

For PASCV membership information:
www.pascv.net/members/f_reg.asp
All membership dues can be paid online at the website.

PASCV members are eligible for a discounted membership to the Journal of Clinical Virology. PLEASE NOTE: Your membership for 2014 must be paid in full to qualify for the Molecular Virology Workshop discount. If you are not paid at the time you pick up your registration you will be charged the additional fees.