

# MICROTIME

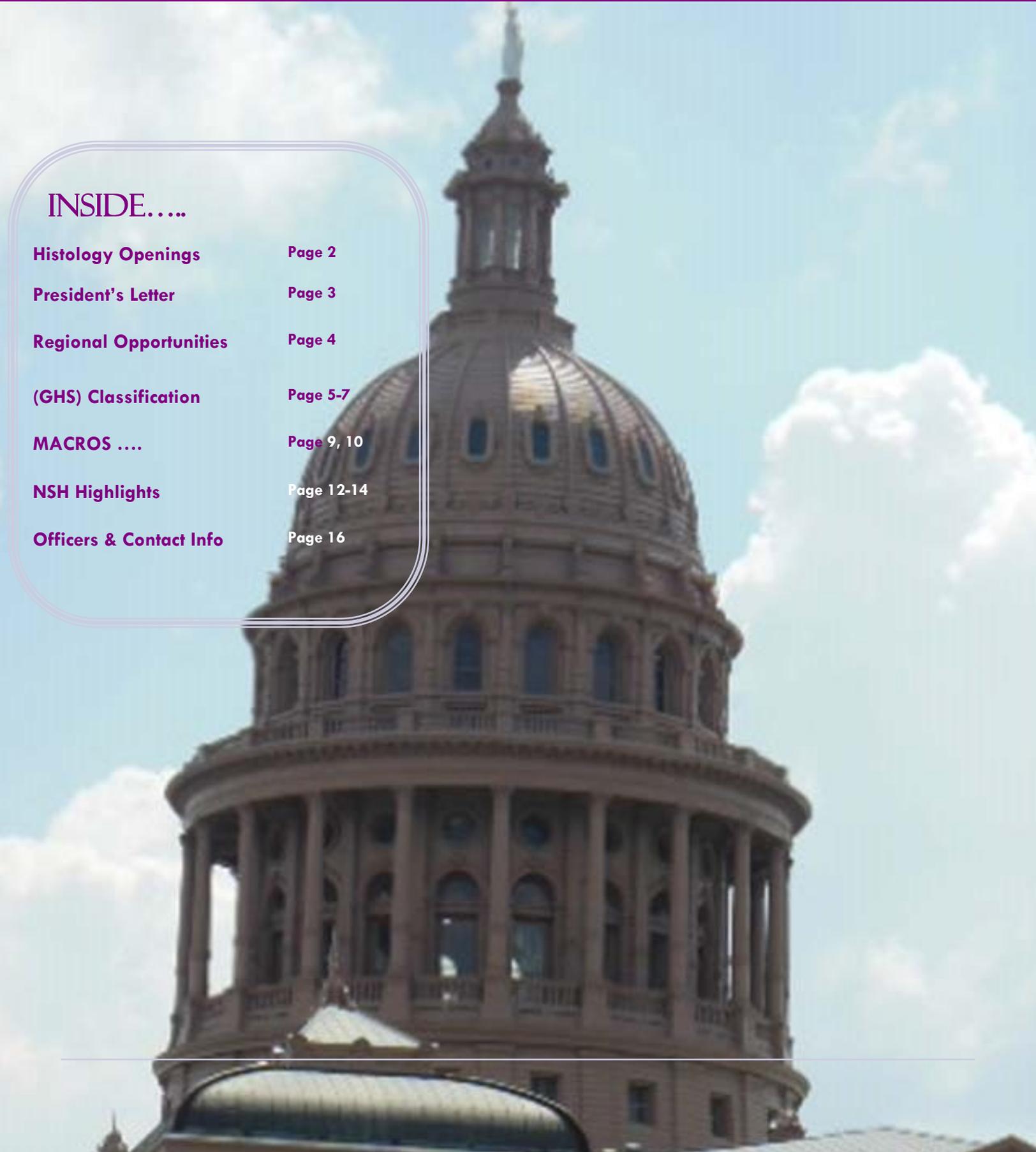
The Georgia Society for Histotechnology

Issue 3

FALL 2014

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# Recent Change to NAACLS Standards

At its September 2014 meeting, after reviewing over 100 public comments, the NAACLS Board of Directors approved a change to Standard I.D.1.g, requiring HT programs to culminate in either an associate degree or higher, or a certificate for students who hold or complete the required degree (see below). Remaining consistent with similar changes in the past (notably in 2001 with MLT programs), NAACLS accredited HT programs will have until their next accreditation review to show proof of compliance with this standard. If an accredited HT certificate-based program has an accreditation review coming soon and needs more time to work to be in compliance with this Standard, the program is encouraged to contact NAACLS staff in order to discuss review scheduling and extension options.

The Board of Directors also viewed public comments related to a proposed change to Phlebotomy Unique Standard VII.A.1.b, and it was decided that a clarification would be added to the NAACLS Standards Compliance Guide to include the ASCP-BOC as a recognized agency for the certification qualification for program directors, leaving the current Standard language intact.

Please contact NAACLS if you have any questions on these changes!

## Approved Change to Standard I.D.1.g:

1. Sponsorship
2. Responsibilities of the Sponsor
  1. The sponsor has primary responsibility for:
    1. ensuring that graduates of the program have obtained or will obtain the minimum degree and/or certificate upon completion of the program:

MLT **and** HT programs: an associate degree or higher, or a certificate for students who hold or complete the required degree.

## *Histology Openings!*



Are you a lab manager?  
Do you have an opportunity?

Please contact

[gshmicrotime@gmail.com](mailto:gshmicrotime@gmail.com)

To post in the Microtime.

## President's Letter....

The GSH was well represented at this year's NSH in Austin, Texas. And I want to thank the Texas committee for giving us a "warm" welcome. For the second year we had an APP available that covered the entire symposium. You could tweet, Facebook, share notes, take notes, and over schedule yourself. Handouts are now given on this app and attendees can download and/or print the available information. I hit the ground running the moment I arrived on Friday and did not slow down until the next Thursday morning. My one regret is missing the birthday party of Skip Brown, as I had the location, but not the time. Otherwise I made all meetings, squeezed in workshops, hugged as many as possible and even attended the awards banquet.

There was an open comment opportunity to voice your opinions with NAACLS about eliminating the diploma route in approved schools. The final decision is in this issue. Legislative chair Amanda Kelley requested a representative from each state, so I volunteered for Georgia. If you are an NSH member and would like to be on the committee for GSH please contact me.

Shirley and I met with Marvin Hanna and are working on a new website. Watch for the announcement soon and contribute your ideas for our new logo. Your BOD meets on October 18th to finalize the program, go over our budget, and continue to amend our Bylaws. Please contact any of the officers, if you would like to attend. On a last note we are accepting abstracts now for HISTOPALOOZA! 2015 at Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands. Please contribute your talents to the GSH. We look forward to hearing from you.

Warm regards,

*Wanda K Simons, HT(ASCP)*

GSH President



## Books & Articles:

**BOC Study Guide - Histotechnology Certification Exams (NEW!) by  
Freida L Carson, PhD, MAsCP, HT(ASCP)  
Glenda F Hood, MEd, HT(ASCP)**

Applicants preparing for the Board of Certification examinations in HT and HTL will find valuable assistance in this handy guide. The Study Guide covers all areas encountered on the exam, including fixation, processing, microtomy, staining, and laboratory operations.

<http://ascp.org/Store/Books/BOC-Study-Guide-Histotechnology.html>

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## REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**South Carolina Symposium** November 14-16, 2014  
North Myrtle Beach, SC

**NSH** one day meeting in Puerto Rico December 6, 2014  
(go to NSH website for details)

**North Carolina Society** April 9~11, 2015  
Raleigh Durham Airport Double Tree by Hilton Hotels

### **HISTOPALOOZA! 2015**

Georgia Society for Histotechnology  
Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands April 17~19, 2015  
[www.histosearch.com/gsh/](http://www.histosearch.com/gsh/) watch for registration soon

**Florida Society** May 14~17, 2015

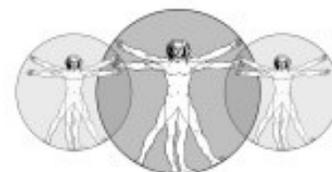
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# The Globally Harmonized System of the Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS)

## Part II

In the last issue of Microtime the elements of “The Globally Harmonized System of the Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS)” was discussed. Part II is designed as a training decrement to gain an understanding of pertinent information of each of the 16 headers of the GHS ‘Safety Data Sheet’ (SDS). The following is an outline that details the information required in each section of the ‘Safety Data Sheet (SDS)’ format required by GHS.

### **Section 1; Identification:**

Section 1 identifies the product on the SDS and the product code used on the label; it also lists any common names and/or synonyms of the product. Essential contact information of the supplier is also present; such as name, address, phone number, other responsible parties, and emergency phone numbers. Recommended use of the product and restrictions of use is also listed.

### **Section 2; Hazard(s) Identification:**

Section 2 identifies the hazards of the product and appropriate warning information associated with the hazards, the hazard classification of the chemical, signal words, hazard statement's, pictograms, precautionary statement(s) and a description of any hazards not otherwise classified by the GHS. In the case of a mixture that contains an ingredient(s) with unknown toxicity, the percentage of the ingredient is listed.

### **Section 3; Composition Information on Ingredients:**

Section 3 identifies the ingredient(s) in the product, including impurities and stabilizing additives; in addition information on substances, mixtures, and chemicals where a trade secret is claimed. The ingredients are listed with their common names along with CAS numbers and other unique identifiers.

The chemical name and concentration (i.e., exact percentage) of all ingredients which are classified as health hazards must be listed of a chemical mixture that is present above the cut-off concentration limits or present a health risk below the cut-off concentration limits. When a chemicals trade secret is claimed, a statement is given that the specific chemical identity and/or exact percentage (concentration) of composition has been withheld as a trade secret.

### **Section 4; First Aid Measures:**

Section 4 pertains to the initial care that should be given by untrained responders to an individual who has been exposed to the product and has developed an adverse reaction. First-aid instructions are given by relevant routes of exposure (inhalation, skin and eye contact, and ingestion). A description of the most important symptoms or effects and any symptoms that are acute or delayed are listed. Recommendations for immediate medical care and when special treatment is necessary is also provided.

### **Section 5; Fire Fighting Measures:**

Section 5 provides recommendations for fighting a fire caused by the product. Recommendations of suitable extinguishing equipment and information about extinguishing equipment appropriate for a particular situation are also discussed. Information in reference to specific hazards that develop from the product during a fire, such as hazardous combustion products generated when the product burns. Recommendations on special protective equipment or precautions for firefighters are also given.

**Section 6; Accidental Release Measures:**

Section 6 cites recommendations on the response to spills, leaks, or releases of the product to include containment and cleanup practices to prevent or minimize exposure to people, properties, or the environment. This section may also include recommendations distinguishing between responses for large and small spills, where the spill volume has a significant impact on a hazard. Recommendations for the use of personal precautions; such as removal of ignition sources, providing sufficient ventilation and protective equipment to prevent the contamination of skin, eyes, and clothing, if relevant in the event of a spill. Emergency procedures, instructions for evacuations, consulting experts when needed, and appropriate protective clothing are conversed. Appropriate techniques for clean-up procedures for spills and leaks such as; neutralization, decontamination, adsorbent materials use, and equipment required for containment is provided.

**Section 7; Handling and Storage:**

Guidance on the safe handling practices and conditions for safe storage of the product is disclosed. Chemical incompatibility, ventilation requirements, minimizing product release to the environment, and advice on general hygiene practices when storing and handling the product is given.

**Section 8; Exposure Controls and Personal Protection:**

Exposure limits, engineering controls, and personal protective measures used to minimize worker exposure to the product are listed. OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs), American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) Threshold Limit Values (TLVs), and any other exposure limit used or recommended by the chemical manufacturer, importer, or employer preparing SDS is cited. Special requirements for personal protective equipment, protective clothing or respirators, and type of glove material, such as PVC or nitrile are listed.

**Section 9; Physical and Chemical Properties:**

Section 9 identifies physical and chemical properties associated with the product (substance or mixture). The following is a list of physical and chemical properties that appear in this section: Appearance (physical state, color, etc.), upper/lower flammability or explosive limits, odor, odor threshold, pH, relative density, melting point/freezing point, solubility(ies), initial boiling point and boiling range, flash point, evaporation rate, flammability, upper/lower flammability or explosive limits, vapor pressure, vapor density, partition coefficient n-octanol/water, auto-ignition temperature, decomposition temperature and viscosity. SDS may not contain every item on the above list because information may not be relevant or is not available. When this occurs, a notation to that effect must be made for that chemical property. Manufacturers may also add other relevant properties, such as the dust deflagration index for combustible dust used to evaluate a dust's explosive potential.

**Section 10; Stability and Reactivity:**

Section 10 describes the chemical stability and reactivity of the product under normal ambient temperature and conditions while in storage or being handled, stable or unstable. A description of any stabilizers that may be needed to maintain chemical stability of the product is listed. Indication of any safety issues that may arise should the product change in physical appearance is disclosed. A description of conditions in which the product may have hazardous reactions such as spontaneous polymerization that could release excess pressure and, heat, or create other hazardous conditions are listed.

All classes of incompatible materials, classes of chemicals or specific substances with which the product could react to produce a hazardous condition are also listed. Known or anticipated hazardous decomposition of the product that may be produced during use, storage, and heating is disclosed. Hazardous combustion products may also be included in Section 5 (Fire-Fighting Measures) of the SDS.

**Section 11; Toxicological Information:**

Section 11 identifies toxicological and health effects or indicates that such data is not available. Information is given on the routes of exposure such as inhalation, ingestion, skin and eye contact; if information is unknown it should be stated. A description of delayed, immediate, or chronic effects from short-term and long-term exposure of the product is described. A numerical measure of toxicity of the product is given such as acute toxicity estimates (LD50). Descriptions of the symptoms associated with exposure to the product; including symptoms of the lowest exposure to the most severe exposure. Information in reference to product listing in the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Report on Carcinogens (latest edition), the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Monographs as a potential carcinogen -latest editions, and/or found to be a potential carcinogen by OSHA. Product testing results of bioaccumulation potential, making reference to the octanol-water partition coefficient and the bio-concentration factor when available. Information in reference to the product's potential to move from soil to groundwater, results from adsorption studies or leaching studies are also cited. This section lists adverse effects, -environmental fate, ozone layer depletion potential, photochemical ozone creation potential, endocrine disrupting potential, and/or global warming potential.

### **Section 12; Ecological Information (non-mandatory):**

This section provides information on the environmental impact of the product if released into the environment. Also found in this section, when available is, toxicity tests data performed on aquatic and/or terrestrial organisms and acute or chronic aquatic toxicity data for fish, algae, crustaceans, and other plants. Information on whether there is a potential for the product to persist and degrade in the environment through biodegradation or other processes such as oxidation or hydrolysis is given.

### **Section 13; Disposal Considerations (non-mandatory):**

Guidance on proper disposal practices, recycling/reclamation of the product and container along with safe handling practices to minimize exposure. Section 13 also contains information regarding the physical and chemical properties of the product that may affect disposal activities, such as language discouraging sewage disposal and any special precautions for landfills or incineration activities.

### **Section 15; Regulatory Information (non-mandatory):**

This section identifies the safety, health, and environmental regulations specific for the product that is not indicated elsewhere on the SDS. Any national and/or regional regulatory information of the product (chemical or mixtures ) including any OSHA, Department of Transportation, Environmental Protection Agency, and /or Consumer Product Safety Commission regulations may also be listed in this section.

### **Section 16; Other Information:**

May indicate when the SDS was prepared or when the last known revision was made. This section may contain other useful information not found in other sections of the SDS.

Jerry Fredenburgh

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## "HOW I LEARNED TO PREPARE MACRO SECTIONS"

BY: **SHIRLEY POWELL**, HT(ASCP)HTL, QIHC  
MERCER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MACON, GA

In 1967 the Armed Forces of Pathology accepted my pathologist's request to send his Histotech, me, to DC for training in their laboratories. On arrival there, I was greeted by the infamous Lee Luna who was then head of the histology labs. My first week was spent in the special stain labs where I mostly observed their routine and learned the mechanics of staining from Hazel Hamm, who immediately adopted me as one of her own. The second week it was the dental and oral lab for a couple of days where I learned more about decalcification procedures than I ever was able to use. The last 3 days of that week was the eye laboratory where I learned to process and section eyes with Edna Prophet. The last week, the third, was in the bone lab with Bud Cunningham. This is where I actually learned how to process, section and stain whole or large organs.

My first impression was WOW. Right in the middle of the floor was a microtome that stood almost as tall as my shoulders. It was about four and a half feet long and it had a flywheel about two feet in diameter. (See figure 1 & figure 2)



Figure 1 & 2

Mounted on a plate in the middle was a 20 year old paraffin processed postmortem bone that was being sectioned. I was awe-struck and this is where my macro education began.

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Needless to say, I returned home and immediately began setting up my macro laboratory at the Medical Center in Macon. A large collection of specimens were processed in the lab but over the years after I moved to another hospital the interest was lost and the equipment was moved into storage. Years passed and after my arrival at Mercer University School of Medicine Pathology department in 1985, the Medical Center wanted to clean out the laboratory storage area and donated the macro equipment and paraffin blocks to Mercer. When a renewed interest in macro technique emerged in the histology community for various reasons, possibly for teaching and for archival needs, the equipment and blocks were put to use, the art has been rekindled. For myself, this has resulted in several presentations on macros on the state, the region and the national level.

Setting up a Macro laboratory in your own facility with procuring only a few pieces of specialized equipment is possible. The processing, sectioning and staining of macro sections are similar to routine histology but on a larger scale. Larger blocks, blades, slides, staining containers. But the regular microtomes in the laboratory can be used to section larger blocks as long as the clearance between the microtome blade and block allows the block to travel all the way past the bevel. The larger sliding microtomes (See Figure 3) can be used for the blocks that cannot be sectioned on the regular microtomes.



Figure 3

In my next article I will discuss the actual processing, embedding, sectioning and staining macros.

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# NSH 2014 - Austin, TX



Texas Symposium Committee



Front Row: Jack Ratliff, Billie Zimmerman, and Wanda Simons  
Back Row: Christie Gowan and Linda Jenkins



Janet Hobbs, Jack Ratliff, Pam Barker, and Christie Gowan



Shirley Powell for the win!



Jack Ratliff in concert!



Elizabeth Chipala



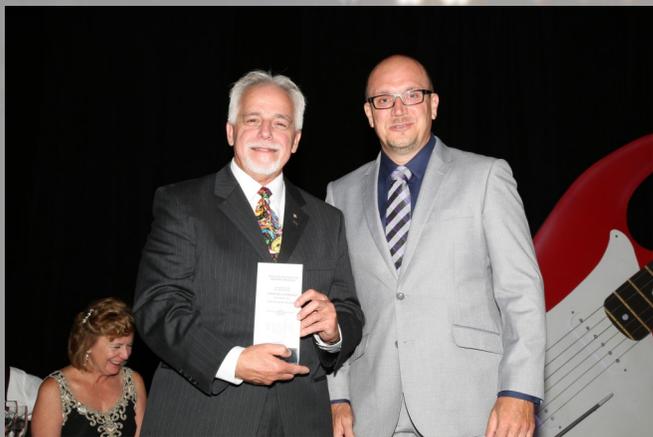
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Vaunita Cohen  
Parihar (Region III and GSH member)  
Presented By: Elizabeth Chlipala  
Sponsored by: Ventana Medical Systems, Tucson, AZ



Lee G. Luna Foreign Travel Award 2014 Recipient: Jack  
Ratliff (Region III Director)  
Presented by Jim Archenbaugh and Elizabeth Chlipala  
Sponsored by: Leica Microsystems, Richmond, IL



Histotechnologist of the Year 2014 Recipient:  
Vinnie Della Speranza  
(Region III and GSH member)  
Presented By: Andreas Kaepplein  
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Rosemary & Donald Ostermeier Memorial Award  
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Presented and Sponsored by:  
Mark Ostermeier



Sue Clark (North Carolina)



Chad McMahan (South Carolina) and Mequita Praet (Florida)



Jim Burchette (Tennessee)



Aubrey Wanner (NSH) and Charlie Larson with IMEB



(Left to Right) Brenda Royce, Dot Kubler (Louisiana), Mequita Praet (Florida), Linda Jenkins (South Carolina) and Shirley Powell (Georgia)



Chad McMahan (South Carolina) and Sylvia Casey

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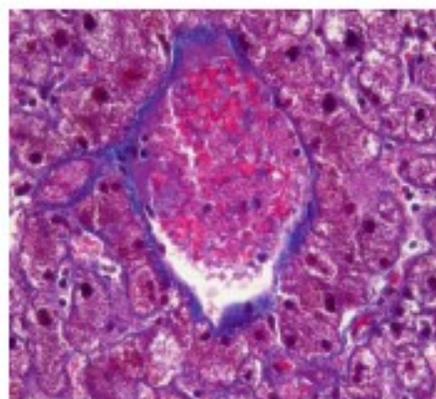
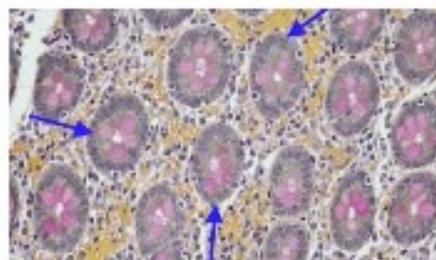
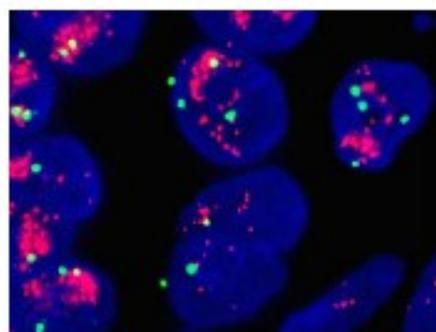
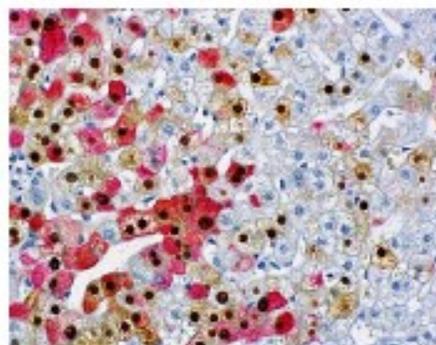
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2014 Recipient: William DeSalvo

Newcomer Helping Hand Award  
Sponsored by: Newcomer Supply, Middleton, WI  
2014 Recipient: Carlos Hernandez

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2014 Recipient: Fletcher Allen Health Care

Biocare Excellence in Patient Care Award  
Sponsored by: Biocare Medical, Concord, CA  
2014 Recipient: University of Michigan

### Immunohistochemistry Awards

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2014 Recipient: Sheryl Tripp

Biogenex Excellence in Standardization of IHC Award  
Sponsored by: BioGenex, Fremont, CA  
2014 Recipient: Regina Vontell

Ventana Immunohistochemistry Scholarship Award  
Sponsored by: Ventana Medical Systems, Tucson, AZ  
2014 Recipient: Colleen Huddleston

Dako Excellence in Standardization of IHC Techniques Award  
Sponsored by: Dako, Carpinteria, CA  
2014 Recipient: David Davis

Epitomics IHC Award  
Sponsored by: Epitomics INC, Burlingame, CA  
2014 Recipient: Paula Arrowsmith

### Molecular

Ventana In-Situ Hybridization Scholarship Award  
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2014 Recipient: Vaunita Cohen Parihar  
(Region III and GSH member)

### Hard Tissue

Anne Preece Award  
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2014 Recipient: Philip Seifert

### Digital Pathology

Digital Pathology Award  
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2014 Recipient: Jesus Ellin

### Leadership

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