PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Janet Ellen Holwell, CCRC, CCRA

We have kicked off our first quarter quite successfully. We have an ambitious educational program developed as well as two social networking events planned for this year. We are also piloting two initiatives for 2012.

The first initiative is our *Bring a Guest* campaign. Chapter members may now bring guests to our 2012 evening educational events for free. Chapter members may bring as many guests to an event as they like, however each guest may only attend one free evening educational event during 2012. Chapter members must register their guests and also attend the event. We hope that this initiative will inspire more of the research community to benefit from our event offerings and encourage new membership.

Our second initiative is the reimbursement for contact hours for ACRP certified NY Metropolitan Chapter members. Details about this program can be found [HERE](#).

We welcome Aerotek, once again, as our Platinum Level Sponsor for 2012! We are actively seeking additional sponsors and I would ask that you contact our chair of marketing, Roseann Affinito or me with any potential leads you might have.

Our last event of 2011 was a great success with much positive feedback. The Salmon River Restaurant provided the perfect venue for relaxed networking. This was the first time that I've actually seen many of our board members have time to enjoy the festivities! Many lingered past the end of the party and took advantage of our ideal location to visit festive Bryant Park and the Lord & Taylor holiday windows.

We are all looking forward to our opening event of 2012 on the first day of spring, Tuesday, March 20. The story of Henrietta Lacks and the ethical dilemmas presented have stirred much interest and we anticipate this to be our most well attended evening session to date. At the time of this writing, we had over 100 pre-registered! We will have our first general business meeting of the year preceding the education program, including an item requiring a vote.

We have a proposed revision to our *chapter bylaws*. Going forward, we wish to allow for the option of members to vote via e-mail. The verbiage of the change was e-mailed to all current NY Metropolitan Chapter members and also can be found [HERE](#). The chapter member's identity will be anonymous to us since global will manage the logistics of an e-mail vote if we decide to utilize this modality. It will give the board more options and give our general members more opportunity to have a voice in matters of election. Speaking of elections, it is never too early to think about chapter elections. Please consider if you would like to nominate yourself or another for a board officer, committee chair or member position.
Official communication is usually sent out in June.

A gentle reminder, please do not forget to cancel your reservation for our events if you will not be able to attend. We realize that unexpected conflicts might arise, but we depend upon our registration numbers to order refreshments and would like to avoid waste and additional expense for the chapter as best we can.

The ACRP Global Conference and Exhibition is right around the corner. It will be held in Houston, Texas from April 14-17 with pre-conference workshops offered on April 13. The last day to register at a discounted rate is March 30. You may still register on-site, but no discount is offered beyond March 30. Click HERE to register or get more information.

ACRP hosted a free webinar on March 9, "How to Enter the Clinical Research Enterprise." This was open to members and non-members alike and gave tips on how to get into clinical research or how to move into another role. It was recorded, and the recording will be posted free of charge on ACRP's "Webinar Replay" page by March 16. Click HERE for more information.

We are proud of our members' accomplishments. If you have had recognition or special accomplishments, please drop us a note. We would love to share your successes amongst our membership.

Keep your ideas for educational sessions as well as social networking coming. You can always send me your ideas via e-mail at janet.e.holwell@pfizer.com.

Until next time......
Janet

Ann Marshak, CCRA
Education & Programs Committee Chairs
Hailey Rogers, MPH, CCRC
Membership & Retention Committee Chair
Jun Avelino Loquere RN, MD, CCRC, CCRP
Marketing Committee Chair
Roseann Affinito
Communications Committee Chair
Vanessa LaRoche, CCRC, CCRA
Nominations Committee Chair
Ann Marshak, CCRA
Chair, Bylaws Committee
Erika Stevens, MA
Parliamentarian
Erika Stevens, MA
Member at Large
Diana Wong
We are pleased to share with you our exciting educational program agenda for 2012.

One thing that you may notice that is unique about this year's agenda is that we alternated our evening educational programs to different nights of the week. This was done in response to requests from members whose schedules made it difficult to attend on a Thursday night.

Our first program in 2012 will be on Tuesday, March 20th. The event,
entitled "HeLa, Henrietta Lacks and the Laws and Ethics of Tissue Banking" will feature a presentation by Lee Taylor from the Office of Legal Counsel at NYULMC and will be held at Lenox Hill Hospital (part of North Shore LIJ Health System) from 6:00 to 8:30PM. The program will focus on ethical issues raised by the book, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, and discuss how it relates current regulations and to clinical research practice.

Our second event in 2012 will be held at Roosevelt Hospital on Wednesday, May 2nd and will feature a presentation on the "Costs of Clinical Research." The event will include two speakers, one from academia and the other from Pharma, who will present two different perspectives on the topic.

Our 4th annual Clinical Research Symposium will be held on Friday, September 14th at the Pfizer Headquarters in NYC. The topic for this year is "Career Development in Clinical Research." An array of speakers will present on different career paths in clinical research, the tools you can use to get there, and how to ensure that your site is compliant with regulations surrounding role responsibilities and training.

Finally, due to a very positive response from last year’s fall program, we are excited to announce that our final program of the year on Thursday, November 1st will be held out on Long Island again at Feinstein-North Shore LIJ. For this program the focus will be on "Building Quality Assurance and Quality Management Systems into Clinical Trials."

We always welcome input from our chapter members on event topics and/or speakers, and so if you have ideas that you would like to share for future educational programs please feel free to email Halley Rogers at rogersh0217@gmail.com.

More information about any of our events can be found on our chapter website. We look forward to seeing you all at our events this year!

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**MEMBERSHIP & RETENTION COMMITTEE**

*Welcome to our new and renewing Chapter Members!*

Harold Browne, MD; Sylvia Bruzzese, RN; Christine Ciprich, BSN,CCRC; Maria DeFrancesco, CCRC; Lynda Enden; Gina Gualtiere; Miki Haas, RN; Sherif Ibrahim, MD; Felix Ikuomola, MD; Joy Jurnack, RN,CCRC,CIP; Deborah Lehrer, CCRC; Angelita Leon, MS, RDH; Shikha Mehta, MS,CCRP; Lisa Monchil, RRT-NPS,CCRC; Susan Ray, MS,CCRC; Mariamne Reyna; Portia Rindos, BSN, RN, CCRC, CCRA; Len Sierra; Katherine Vandris, BA; Cahaber Veridze, MD; Jeanne Walker, RN, MSN, ANP-C, CCRC*
Congratulations to all our chapter members who passed the September 2011 Certification Examinations for:

CCRA:
Tejal Vyas-Pandya, CCRC, CCRA - Ozmosis Research

CCRC:
Suzanne House, PhD, CCRC - Danbury Hospital
Sowmyashree Shree Sreeshanthy, CCRC - Columbia University
Carla Williams, CCRC - New York Medical College
Mary Sophy Yohannan, MBBS, CCRC - Island Gynecologic Oncology

Please visit our chapter website at www.acrnet.org/nymetro for more information of our coming events. For membership questions, email Jun Loquere at al2061@columbia.edu. You can also log on to www.acrnet.org for ACRP and Chapter membership application.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee is responsible for sending out all chapter communications, including the monthly job boards and quarterly newsletters. Any comments or suggestions regarding our chapter newsletters and job board are also appreciated. Send questions and comments to Vanessa LaRoche at vl2126@columbia.edu.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Marketing Committee is currently seeking sponsorship for our 2012 events. Corporations, recruiters, or institutions interested in sponsorship of any of our events or advertising open positions on the job board should contact Roseann Affinito at RAffinito@frontagelab.com. We have several levels of corporate sponsorship available.

The Marketing Committee is always looking for volunteers. Any members interested in becoming more involved in the chapter should also contact Roseann by email.