



## **President-Elect**

**Richard Pettersen, BS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

### **Qualifications:**

AGT member since 1980; AGT Board of Directors – Public Relations Director, 2002-2006; Public Relations Committee Member; Education Committee Member; Legislative Affairs Subcommittee

### **Professional Experience:**

Laboratory Supervisor, Cytogenetics, Quest Diagnostics, Inc., Teterboro, NJ, 2000-Present; Laboratory Supervisor, Genzyme Genetics, Yonkers, NY, 1996-2000; Laboratory Supervisor, Cytogenetics, Regional Medical Genetics Laboratory, Thiells, NY, 1981-1995; Cytogenetic Technologist, University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, CT, 1980-1981; Cytogenetic Technologist, Genetics Lab, Letchworth Dev. Services, Thiells, NY, 1979-1980

### **Education:**

BS in Biology – State University College, Oneonta, NY, 1978

### **Certification:**

CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

New York State Clinical Laboratory Technologist

### **Activities:**

American Society of Human Genetics

Foundation for Genetic Technology Outstanding Technologist Award – 2009

Lector for Roman Catholic Church

### **Candidate Statement:**

As professionals, we should all embrace the opportunities available to utilize our skills and talents to promote our profession and to provide for opportunities for sustained growth of the profession and our organization. It is with this in mind that I ask for your support in electing me to the position of President-Elect. Previously, I have had the pleasure of serving on the board for two terms as Director of Public Relations., and as an active AGT member for the past 30 years, served as a participant in the Education and Public Relations Committees. As Director of Public Relations I also had some involvement with Legislative Affairs activities and with the AGT salary survey.

My current position as Laboratory Supervisor of Cytogenetics, as well as the 30 years experience I have accumulated in the field, has afforded me the opportunity to be involved in many aspects of the profession. Our laboratory has also participated as a clinical site for the University of Connecticut Genetic Technology program for which I am responsible for supervising the rotation and assisting with the grading of students. It has been a very exciting 30 years watching the professions of cytogenetic and molecular

technologists mature to the present level as well as watching our organization grow. If elected to this position I will work to the best of my abilities during the three-year term to foster the continued growth of the organization and to represent AGT and support the collaborations with associated organizations. It is exciting to see the number of collaborative opportunities and increased presence we have in the field of laboratory medicine.

Those of you who were afforded the opportunity to attend the very well-planned and informative sessions of the 2009 meeting will hopefully remember that I was the recipient of the FGT's Outstanding Technologist Award. I wish to thank FGT for granting me this very distinguished award and to thank Applied Imaging for supporting the award as well as the other vendors and laboratories that support similar awards. It was a very crowning achievement for me at this point in my career and has caused me to reflect on the many contacts, acquaintances, and friendships acquired over the years. This is a call for those of you new to the field (and to those who have been around for awhile) : It is your chance to grab the reins and hold tight. It is your choice to join in the race or to be a spectator. Become an active member of your professional association.



## **President-Elect**

**Robin A. Vandergon, MA, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, DLM(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

### **Qualifications:**

AGT member since 1985; Board of Directors, 2002-2008, including President and Annual Meeting Director; AGT Council of Representatives, 1996-2002

### **Professional Experience:**

Supervisor, US Labs, Satellite, Fresno, CA, 2003-Present; Cytogenetic Technologist, Children's Hospital Central California, Madera, CA, 1981-2003

### **Education:**

MA – Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA

BA – Biology, University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA

Research Program: Problems in Marine Biology, Bodega Bay Marine Laboratory

### **Certification:**

CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

DLM(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

California State Department of Health, Clinical Laboratory Scientist

Community College Teaching Credential, State of California

### **Activities:**

Foundation for Genetic Technology, Board of Trustees, 1996-2002

Central California Women's Conference Volunteer, 1995-present

### **Candidate Statement:**

I am honored to accept the nomination for President-Elect of AGT.

I have had the privilege of serving this organization as the AGT President in 2006-2007. I have served as your Annual Meeting Chair and Co-Chair and as the AGT Representative on the Board of Trustees of the Foundation for Genetic Technology (FGT). I participate with the Student Research Award Committee and am meeting coordinator for the Pacific Regional meeting, which is coordinated by FGT and approved for educational credits by AGT.

I began my career in cytogenetics in 1981 and have been a certified technologist since 1985. I am currently the supervisor in a microscope analysis facility and have performed all aspects of cytogenetics and FISH analysis, including the development of training programs, a laboratory protocol manual and quality control/assurance programs.

I believe my experience and organizational skills will help me to fulfill the role of this office. My participation with the association members and the Board of Directors has provided me the opportunity to promote our organization and profession. It is an exciting time in our profession, where we are moving forward with a unified credentialing agency, we are being instrumental in helping with the state licensure processes, and have new tools with a great new web presence to promote the genetic laboratory profession. Our association is your resource as a professional: to access this current and accurate information, to gain continuing education and participate in an ever-growing professional network. As your President-Elect and future President, I am looking forward to working with you to achieve these organizational goals. I would appreciate your vote and support.



## **Director at Large**

**Denise Anamani, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, I(ASCP)**

### **Qualifications:**

AGT member since 2005; Member of GEMS, 2005-2009; AGT Representative to NCA, 2005-2009; Profession Promotion CD Task Force, 2006-2009; Moderator and speaker at AGT Annual Meetings

### **Professional Experience:**

Lecturer, Diagnostic Genetic Sciences Program, Department of Allied Health Sciences, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT – Present; Laboratory Technologist, Molecular Pathology Laboratory, Clinical Laboratory Partners, Hartford Hospital Campus, Newington, CT, 1999-2003; Laboratory Technologist, Molecular Pathology Laboratory, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT, 1995-1999; Laboratory Technologist, Clinical Chemistry, Proteins/Immunology Section, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT, 1988-1995

### **Education:**

2004 – MA in Molecular Cell Biology, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT  
1985 – BA in Biology, Assumption College, Worcester, MA  
1997 – CLSpMB  
1990 – I(ASCP)

### **Activities:**

2009-Present – Board of Certification (BOC) Molecular Exam Committee  
2009-Present – National Credentialing Agency (NCA) Molecular Job Analysis Committee  
2009 – NCA, Chair, Judicial and Ethics Committee  
2007-2009 – NCA Exam Council, Molecular Sub-division  
2004-2009 – Association of Genetic Technologists, Council of Representatives  
2004-2009 – NCA Board of Directors  
2002 – NCA Exam Design Committee  
1999-2002 – Safety Coordinator, Molecular Pathology Department, Clinical Laboratory Partners, Newington, CT

### **Candidate Statement:**

I was immediately excited when I became aware that positions on the AGT Board had opened up. During the short time in which I have not sat on the AGT Council of Representatives, I have been hoping for the chance to become actively involved in this organization once again.

I feel that I have shown dedication and service to AGT throughout the past five years and am ready to continue. Also, I am prepared to take it to the next level. I realize that the position of Annual Meeting co-director will require a great deal of work on my own and with other individuals within and outside of AGT.

I have attended the AGT annual meetings since 2004, during which I have been a moderator, have introduced speakers and have run breakouts, as well as manning the NCA and AGT booths and covering the registration desk. I have a good rapport with Board members and staff, with whom I have formed many friendships that go beyond the confines of AGT.

I am actively involved in profession promotion as well as expanding and strengthening the Diagnostic Genetic Sciences Program at the University of Connecticut. We are in the process of seeking NAACLS accreditation for our molecular concentration to augment our accredited cytogenetics concentration. I have recently been able to add clinical affiliates to our molecular sites and am in the process of negotiating more, which could allow my Program to place up to 10 molecular students each semester.

I have been involved in creating a new biotechnology minor in our College which is debuting this semester. It includes the offering of a new course in molecular technologies, which I am offering. I continue to work with other faculty in our department as well as clinical laboratories in the area to stay current with genetic research and diagnostics.

My goals, if elected, are first to learn the ins and outs of organizing annual meetings, necessarily to a degree that has been otherwise unnecessary for me up to this point. Also, I am dedicated to the values that AGT espouses and so will work diligently to allow members the experience of a fun, informative, smoothly-run meeting that will rejuvenate the excitement that attracted them to cytogenetics, molecular diagnostics and related laboratory fields in the first place.

Please consider my nomination for Annual Meeting Co-Director.



**Director at Large**

**Marilyn Arsham, BS**

**Qualifications:**

AGT member since 1976; Created, authored segments and co-edited the first edition of the *ACT Laboratory Manual*, 1976-1980; Association of Cytogenetic Technologists (ACT) Director of Publications, 1977-1981; Editor-in-Chief of bi-monthly *Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT) Journal*, 1997-2000; Co-editor of the fourth edition of the *AGT Cytogenetics Laboratory Manual*, 2006-Present

**Professional Experience:**

Laboratory Technologist II (P/T), Danbury Hospital, CT, 1998-Present; Consultant as Cytogenetics Technologist, 1991-1998; Assistant Vice President, System Architect, Project Manager, Computer Programmer, Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith, NY, 1981-1987; Lab Technologist, Long Island Jewish-Hillside Medical Center, NY, 1976-1981; Lab Technologist, Beth Israel Medical Center, NY, 1971-1976

**Education:**

1971 – BS, Stern College for Women, NY  
1980 – Computer Programming Certificate, Queensborough College, NY

**Certification:**

NYS Clinical Laboratory Technologist

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

AGT, a professional organization that is comprised predominately of dedicated volunteers, provides resources and assistance unmatched by any other field of its caliber. It began out of a desperate attempt to share information in a relatively new clinical science that was replete with pitfalls, and it grew into a family of scientists with similar interests and even passion. The services it provides – from professional journal articles, journal clubs, job postings, and top-rated meeting presentations, to individual camaraderie with other technologists throughout the world – helps give us the tools to be the best we can be in our own daily routine. I have dedicated years to building upon this directive of keeping our fellow peers educated and informed through the introduction of a laboratory manual concept at the first annual meeting in 1976 and then making the first edition happen with my dear friend Helen Lawce, to returning again to its co-editorship of the fourth edition with Helen Lawce and Margaret Barch in 2006. I also, with Barbara Kaplan's approval, served as editor of the journal (following her was no easy task). As it has been 30 years since I sat on the AGT Board. I don't have definitive goals to propose at this time, but there have been recent changes in

our field which will require our collective attention. For me, most important to what I bring to the AGT board is my passion for what this organization stands for – a place for genetic technologists to grow together.



## **Director at Large**

**Peter C. Hu, PhD, MS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, CG<sup>CM</sup>, MB<sup>CM</sup>**

### **Qualifications:**

AGT member since 1996; AGT Board of Directors – Director of Education, 2006-Present; Journal Reviewer, *Journal of the Association of Genetic Technologists*, 2006-Present; Salary Survey Committee – Co-Chair, 2004 & 2008, Chair, 2006; Genetic Educators and Mentors (GEMS) – Chair, 2008-Present, Member, 2001-2005; Submitted over 70 abstracts to the AGT Annual Meeting since 2001; Presented over 50 posters to the AGT Annual Meeting since 2001; Given three breakout sessions and five workshops at the AGT Annual Meeting.

### **Professional Experience:**

Program Director, School of Health Professions, Molecular Genetic Technology Program, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, 2005-Present; Associate Professor, School of Health Professions, U.T., MD Anderson Cancer Center, 2009-Present; Assistant Professor, School of Health Professions, U.T., MD Anderson Cancer Center, 2004-2009; Instructor, School of Health Sciences, U.T., MD Anderson Cancer Center, 2002-2004; Education Coordinator, School of Health Sciences, U.T., MD Anderson Cancer Center, 2000-2002; Clinical Cytogenetics Instructor, Department of Laboratory Medicine, U.T., MD Anderson Cancer Center, 1996-2000; Teaching Assistant, Department of Biology, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX, 1993-1995

### **Education:**

2008 – PhD in Healthcare Administration, TIU University, Cypress, CA  
Dissertation in Molecular Genetics  
1995 – MS in Microbiology, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX  
1991 – BA in Psychology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

### **Certification:**

1996 – MT(ASCP)  
1996 – CLS(NCA)  
1997 – CLSp(CG)  
2005 – CLSp(MB)  
2005 – MP(ASCP)

### **Activities:**

*Foundation for Genetic Technology* – Member, 2003-Present, Ex-Officio, 2006-2009  
*American Society of Clinical Laboratory Scientists* - Subcommittee Chair, Bio-Rad Professional Achievement Award Committee, 2006-08; Subcommittee Chair, Theriot Award, 2007-09; Subcommittee Chair, Scientific Research Committee, 2006-09; Annual Abstract Selection Committee, 2008-09; Continuing Education Approval Committee, 2009-

12 Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference - Annual Abstract Selection Committee, 2008-10; *Association of Clinical Scientists* - Fellow, 2009-Present; *National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences* - Member, Diagnostic Molecular Science Task Force, 2004-05; Co-Chair, New Program Approval for Cytogenetics, 2008-12; Co-Chair, Cytogenetics Educator, 2008-12; Member, Program Director Criteria Task Force, 2009; Member, Volunteer Mentor Task Force, 2009; Program Site Visitor since 2001 (inspected over 20 programs)

Overall given over 24 breakouts and workshops at state and national conventions; Member or Chaired 33 state and national committees

**Candidate Statement:**

I am applying for my third term as the Director of Education for AGT. During this past term, I have learned a lot about our society and what it can offer to our members. I am proud to be on this board and would like to continue this role. During these past four years, I have edited and co-wrote 18 Journal Clubs, 16 Test Yourselfs, participated in board meetings, organized CEUs for the annual meeting, approved CEUs for local meetings, and updated CEU requirements for the States of Florida and California. I also conducted three salary surveys and gave workshops and breakout sessions during annual meetings.

Genetics and education are two of my passions in life. I was lucky enough to obtain my present position at U.T. MD Anderson Cancer Center, which enabled me to practice both of my passions at the same time. After receiving my Masters of Science degree in microbiology back in 1995, I went through the MT program followed by the CGT program at U.T. MD Anderson Cancer Center. Fate played a role in that when an education coordinator position became available for both programs, I was the only person qualified in the surrounding area. Working under these two programs has helped me gain a lot of knowledge about these professions and about the accreditation process. Four years ago, an opportunity became available to start a Molecular Genetic Technology Program. The program has since passed NAACLS inspection, and we are going to graduate our sixth class in six months.



## **Director at Large**

**Patricia LeMay, MT(ASCP), CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

### **Qualifications:**

AGT member since 1990; AGT Board of Directors – Director of Membership, 2007-2009; Government Affairs Committee

### **Professional Experience:**

Supervisor Cytogenetics Laboratory, Monmouth Medical Center, 1977-present

### **Education:**

BS in Medical Technology – Monmouth University, 1977

### **Certification:**

MT(ASCP)  
CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

### **Activities:**

Jersey Shore Rose Society  
Red Bank Fire Department Ladies Auxillary

### **Candidate Statement:**

I am very pleased to accept the nomination for director at large for the AGT Board of Directors. Having served from 2007 to 2009 as Membership Director, I was able to gain experience working with talented and committed individuals in the genetics field, as well as meet many aspiring students at the annual meetings. It is with these young professionals that the future of our profession lies. In addition, I have worked on the Government Affairs Committee of the AGT to help with its commitment of advancing our profession, and “putting a face” on our very special membership.

I have been working as a cytogenetics technologist since 1977, and have worked in a full service laboratory for my entire career. This experience gives me a very unique perspective on the challenges that we, as genetic technologists face every day. Currently, I work as a supervisor in a hospital laboratory and on a daily basis deal with the issues that confront our field ... from the very technical to the esoteric. I have seen many changes since I began my career, but none as dramatic as the changes and challenges that we face today in health care. As our field is propelled even further into the more complex, technical and fascinating areas of medicine, the importance of cytogenetics, FISH, microarrays and molecular genetics all are being recognized as vital components of health care with far-reaching implications for society. As a member of the Board, I would work to bring all of these aspects to the forefront for our membership.

We, as professionals, have to take charge of our own organization and make sure that we are represented as a group, and united in future goals. I would work for more educational opportunities for our members, recruitment of motivated students, and for increased recognition of genetics on a national level. Our annual meeting is the perfect venue for promoting this exciting career and showcasing the opportunities that are available to genetic technologists. I have previously worked in public relations, and currently, as part of my duties, I am the chairperson for community outreach for the Pathology Department at Monmouth Medical, and I feel that I would bring these experiences to the service of the AGT.

As a director at large, I would bring not only enthusiasm to the Board, but the dedication and experience that the members have grown to expect and deserve from their association.



**Director at Large**

**Chestnut A. Livermore, BA, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

**Qualifications:**

AGT member since 2003

**Professional Experience:**

Cytogenetic Technologist III, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 7/2009-present  
Cytogenetic Technologist II, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 12/2004-7/2009  
Cytogenetic Technologist I, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 5/2003-12/2004  
Agricultural Research Technician, USDA, Georgia, 11/2000-10/2002

**Education:**

Master's program in agronomy specializing in plant breeding and genetics – University of Nebraska- Pending Graduation  
BA in Biology – Dana College, 1997  
AS – Otero Jr. College, 1995

**Certification:**

CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

**Activities:**

Agronomy Graduate Student Association – Social Committee Chair  
Volleyball – Captain/All-Conference – four years  
USA Volleyball Association Team Captain – eight years  
Extreme Volleyball Professional – contracted athlete – four years  
USA Volleyball Association – Semi-Pro Beach Clinician for Beach Volleyball Juniors Program – two years  
Semi-Pro Beach Volleyball Coach (Adult) – three years  
USA Volleyball Association Elected Volunteer Adult Volleyball Board Representative – two years  
Amateur Dancesport Competitor – one year

**Candidate Statement:**

The Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT) opened the door to many opportunities for me, and I would like to give back to the AGT community by helping ensure that others have access to the same kinds of professional and personal opportunities. I want to continue taking an active role in the ongoing improvement of AGT. We have a strong organization with a mission to support our fellow colleagues within our field of study. I'm excited to offer my work experience and talents to facilitate our organization's plan for the challenges of future growth.

The Annual Meeting Co-Director position entails multiple skill sets that are crucial for success. If elected, I believe my uncanny communication expertise will prove to be beneficial. Another valued asset for this position includes a strong teamwork aptitude. My entire life experience of abundant opportunities playing various team sports like volleyball, and exposure to a multi-cultural work environment, have contributed to my proficiency to coordinate and excel at working well with others. The most essential part of being a distinguished Annual Meeting Co-Director is the finesse needed to organize at a high level. This is one of my most formidable talents because of my experience on the cytogenetic side as well as advancing our lab's Home Brew section. My exposure in a large lab has presented me with a unique opportunity to acquire a proficient knowledge of multiple specimen types. This led to cultivating diverse work experiences, including accessing, culture work and analysis. Currently my job encompasses the Home Brew area. This position has further extended my background by creating a clear, concise methodology, proper record keeping/storage, and accurately refining our paper files into electronic files. The above combination of knowhow will correlate into the goals I have of providing a fresh approach, along with demonstrating creative new ideas for substantial improvement within AGT. Thank you for your time and consideration for the Annual Meeting Co-Director position.



**Director at Large**

**Qiulu Pan, PhD**

**Qualifications:**

AGT member since 2007

**Professional Experience:**

Director of Molecular Pathology Laboratory, Department of Pathology, Montefiore Medical Center; Bronx, NY, November 2004-Present; Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY, November 2004-Present

**Education:**

1995 – PhD, Zhejiang University, China

1991 – MS, Zhejiang University, China

1984 – MD, Zhejiang University, China

**Activities:**

2008 – 2012: Publications Committee Member, Association of Molecular Pathology

2008 – 2009: Associate CHAMP Moderator, Association of Molecular Pathology

2009 – 2012: CHAMP Moderator, Association of Molecular Pathology

Diplomat, Clinical Molecular Genetics, ABMG, 2005

Diplomat, Clinical Cytogenetics, ABMG, 2007

Diplomat, Molecular Diagnostics, ABCC, 2008

**Candidate Statement:**

I have a medical background and worked as a Pediatrician/Oncologist for ten years. I have been in Molecular/Cytogenetics for 15-20 years. I am certified by ABMG in Molecular and Cytogenetics. Based on my experience and qualifications I think I could serve this community well. Thank you for supporting me.



**Director at Large**

**Jason Yuhas, BS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

**Qualifications:**

AGT member since 2001

**Professional Experience:**

Education Specialist, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, 2008-Present; FISH Trainer/Cytogenetic Technologist, Mayo Clinic Cytogenetics Lab – FISH Area, 2006-2008; Cytogenetic Technologist, Mayo Clinic Cytogenetics Lab – FISH Area, 2004-2006; Researcher/Cytogenetics Core Technologist, Van Andel Research Institute – Cytogenetic Core Facility, 2002-2003; Adjunct Faculty, Grand Valley State University, Biology Department, 1999-2004; Cytogenetic Technologist I & II, Spectrum Health Cytogenetics Lab, 1998-2004

**Education:**

1998 – BS in Biology, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI

**Certification:**

2001 – CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

**Activities:**

American Association of Cancer Research – 2002-2004  
NCA Exam Committee – 2007-2009  
NCA Job Analysis Committee – 2009

**Candidate Statement:**

I have been involved in the field of cytogenetics for over 10 years and would like to opportunity to become more involved with AGT. I have been a member since 2001 and have attended three AGT Annual Meetings in that time. Of these meetings, I have provided oral or poster presentations at two (2008 and 2009).

I believe I could perform the duties in either the annual meeting co-director position (I do live in Minnesota, which could be beneficial for the 2011 meeting) or the public relations position (I have html authoring, forum administration and social media experience).

I bring a good deal of motivation and energy to any position with which I am involved. I enjoy working with people and would also enjoy the opportunity to become further involved in the Association of Genetic Technologists.

If elected to the meeting co-director position, I would assist the meeting director so that the 2011 meeting met the needs of the AGT members as well as showcasing all that Minnesota has to offer visitors. My proximity to Minneapolis/St. Paul could assist in the planning of the meeting because I can visit hotels, investigate activities and scope other venues prior to the annual meeting.

If elected to the public relations position, I would like to further develop the AGT web site and forum to be powerful tools for the genetics community. Increased media coverage (facebook pages, etc) would also assist in making AGT even better known to all in the genetics community.

Thanks in advance for the opportunity to become better involved with AGT!