Authorship Retreat to Be Held at CBE Meeting; Abstracts for Poster Presentations Invited

Faith McLellan, Chair
Education Committee

CBE’s Task Force on Authorship, chaired by Frank Davidoff, editor of Annals of Internal Medicine, will host a retreat during the 1999 CBE annual meeting in Montreal. Cosponsored by the US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Research Integrity, the retreat will be held on Monday, 24 May 1999, and will include presentation and discussion of the problems of authorship in biomedicine and various proposed solutions.

The task force is composed of 4 working groups. The research group, chaired by Phil Fontanarosa and Drummond Rennie, is coordinating research initiatives undertaken by several journals and institutions. A group led by Susan Eastwood and Hilary Pritchard is developing a strategy for liaison with other relevant professional, academic, and regulatory organizations. Richard Horton is chairing a group that will produce a white paper on the issues. Faith McLellan’s working group is organizing the retreat.

Abstracts for poster presentation at the retreat are being solicited. Potential topics include all aspects of authorship in biomedical publication, such as institutional policies, journals’ experience with various forms of author or contributor lists, and authors’ perceptions of authorship problems and proposed solutions. Reports of original research will receive preferential consideration.

Instructions for submission: Type the title and the text of an abstract on a single sheet of plain 8.5 X 11-inch paper. The title must be limited to 100 characters and the abstract must be no longer than 250 words. Ensure that this page does not contain any information that would disclose the identity of the authors to a reviewer. On a cover sheet, list the title, authors, affiliation, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address. Send the cover page and 3 copies of the abstract to Phil Fontanarosa MD Senior Editor, JAMA, 515 North State Street, Chicago, IL 60610. Abstracts must be received by Monday, 15 March 1999.

For questions about the task force, or to volunteer, please call Faith McLellan at 409-772-8556 or e-mail mclellan@utmb.edu.

In Memoriam: Paul J Anderson MD

Former CBE president Paul J Anderson died 11 August at his home in Manhattan. The cause was a brain tumor diagnosed in early July. Anderson was 72.

A CBE member since 1966, Anderson served as president in 1984-1985. He also chaired various CBE committees, including the committee that produced the book Illustrating Science: Standards for Publication. Barbara Meyers, immediate past president of CBE, has characterized Anderson as “one of our great leaders and special colleagues”.

Anderson, a prominent neuropathologist, was editor-in-chief of the Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry from 1973 to 1996. In addition, he served for 20 years as editor of the Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology. He was author or coauthor of more than 100 scientific articles and 4 books.

At the time of his death, Anderson was a clinical professor of neurology and pathology at Mount Sinai Hospital and an attending neurologist at Beth Israel Hospital. Earlier, he had for 30 years headed the Division of Neuropathology at the Mount Sinai Hospital and School of Medicine. Over the years, he had received multiple recognitions for excellence in teaching.

Anderson’s interests included music, literature, poetry, archeology, fine arts, gardening, and culinary arts. Instructions for Chili Pablo, “the landmark Paul J Anderson recipe”, graced the back of the program for his memorial service, held 17 September in New York.

Contributions in Anderson’s memory may be made to the World Monuments Fund, 949 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10028. The contributions will underwrite an archeological conservation project.