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Dear Fellows of the Academy of Diagnostics & Laboratory Medicine,

It is a particularly exciting time, and the most incredible honor, for me to serve as the Academy President and Chair of the Academy Council for the 2023-2024 year.

AACC officially transitioned to ADLM at the opening plenary session at the 2023 annual meeting in Anaheim, CA. Prior to this transition, I was proud to represent the Academy on the Branding Transition Task Force, which worked to ensure the successful transition to the ADLM name and brand across all of the organization's programs and services, including the Academy. Through these discussions, with feedback from our Academy fellows, and with approval by the Board of Directors, it was decided that the name of the AACC Academy be changed to the Academy of Diagnostics & Laboratory Medicine, or simply "the Academy." The Academy's designation for fellows will transition from FAACC to FADLM in the Fall of 2023.

While our name is new, it is well aligned with the great work the Academy has already been doing for many years across the broad field of laboratory medicine. I wish to assure our fellows that the Academy will remain the home for scientifically engaged and distinguished clinical chemists; however, it also remains open to members with  $\geq 5$  years of post-doctoral experience who specialize in any area of laboratory medicine. As a reminder of the Academy's eligibility criteria, which have not changed through the name transition, please see our [website](#). In the coming year, I plan to work with the Academy leadership and ADLM staff to enhance awareness of the Academy and its valuable contributions to laboratory medicine, with goals of expanding the diversity and expertise of our membership.

Last year, the bar was set high for the Academy, under the extraordinary leadership of Dr. Yusheng Zhu and the Academy Council. Below are some 2022-2023 highlights in each of our key activity areas, which we will continue to prioritize over the next year, in alignment with the ADLM strategic plan.

- **Awards:** At the Academy Membership Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon held on July 26, 2023 in Anaheim, we recognized the 2023 Distinguished Abstract Winners as well as the following awardees. Many thanks to our Awards committee, chaired by Dr. Gyorgy Abel.
  - Michael Y Tsai, PhD, FAACC, FAHA: Academy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Clinical Chemistry in a Selected Area of Research

- James Ritchie, BS, MPH, PhD: Professor Alvin Dubin Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Profession and the Academy
- Nadia Ayala-Lopez, PhD, MLS (ASCP), DABCC, NRCC: George Grannis Award for Excellence in Research and Scientific Publication
- **Publications:**
  - Guidance documents: Four new guidance documents were published (Point-of-Care Testing in Fertility and Reproduction; Cervical Cancer Detection; Procalcitonin; Improving Equity in Chronic Kidney Disease Care - a collaboration with the National Kidney Foundation). Seven guidance documents were initiated and are currently in progress. Separately, we are also participating in a new guidance led by the College of American Pathologists on transgender reference intervals. Our guidance documents are managed by our Content Development Committee, who recently developed a newly enhanced Academy documents standard operating procedure, peer review process, and author information packet.
  - Laboratory medicine practice guidelines (LMPG): The Academy's LMPG on diabetes testing, first published in 2002 and updated in 2011, was newly updated and published in July 2023 in both [Clinical Chemistry](#) and [Diabetes Care](#), in collaboration with the American Diabetes Association.
  - **Scientific Shorts:** We continue to publish the highly-read Academy [Scientific Shorts](#) regularly on our website. Thanks to our Scientific Shorts Editorial Board, chaired by Dr. Thomas Kampfrath, for keeping this long-standing Academy program engaging with hot topics in laboratory medicine!
- **Test Utilization:** Our Test Utilization Committee is a joint effort between the Academy and the Science and Practice Core Committee (SPCC) and is chaired by Dr. Alison Woodworth. The committee, previously a task force, was officially launched this past year. [ADLM's Guide to Lab Test Utilization](#) contains a collection of modules addressing 26 (and growing) commonly misutilized tests. Two of the modules were highlighted in a scientific session at the 2023 annual meeting.
- **Economic Benchmarks:** The Academy is excited to be kicking off a series of case studies to quantify and highlight the economic impact of laboratory medicine in healthcare. The first study, led by Dr. Hong Kee Lee, is focused on high-sensitivity troponin and is anticipated to be completed next year.

Importantly, in everything that we do, the Academy and Academy Council seek to advance ADLM's Core Values of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Health Equity. We are using the [DEI Lens](#) as we appoint committee members and document writing groups, and as we select, write, and review content for our publications.

We are pleased with the many collaborations we have established through the above activities, both within ADLM (e.g., SPCC, and a new document recently initiated with the Data Analytics Steering Committee) and with external clinical societies (e.g., NKF, CAP, ADA). These collaborations expand our audiences, further the value of our content, and emphasize the essential roles of laboratory medicine. We will continue to seek collaborations and documents

endorsements where appropriate, and we have accounted for this with the recent enhancements to the Academy documents standard operating procedures.

Additionally, many thanks to: 1) the Nominating Committee, chaired by Dr. David Koch, for accomplishing the critically important work of selecting the next term of Academy leadership, and 2) the Membership Committee, chaired by Dr. Hong Kee Lee, for reviewing membership applications and implementing the new membership renewal and maintenance processes.

Thank you tremendously to ADLM's Stefanie Kleinman (Manager, Academy) and Alex DeTour (Coordinator, Academy & Science Programs) for their dedicated efforts in managing all of our activities and more! And finally, thank you, Academy fellows, for your dedication to the field! Together, our expertise across all areas of laboratory medicine drives innovative solutions to continuously improve patient care. I look forward to working with you all in the next year.

Sincerely,



Allison Chambliss, PhD, DABCC, FADLM  
Academy President