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Dear AACC Academy Fellows,

It is an extraordinary honor and privilege to serve as the AACC Academy President and Chair of the AACC Academy Council for the 2022 – 2023 term. We just showcased and celebrated the Academy's achievements for the last year at the 2022 AACC annual meeting in Chicago. In the coming year, we will bring more innovations and continue to support the strategic initiatives of the AACC.

Although we faced many challenges with the COVID Pandemic in the past year, we, as laboratory experts in diagnostic testing and thought leaders in the field of laboratory medicine, still made significant contributions to the profession of science of laboratory medicine and better health for our patients worldwide, through numerous initiatives. Under the leadership of the council, the AACC Academy has implemented several new initiatives while continuing successful existing programs. In line with AACC's strategic goal to highlight the value of laboratory medicine, the Academy initiated an economic benchmark series that will utilize case-based examples to highlight the economic impact of laboratory medicine professionals to healthcare. The Academy has published four guidance documents and three more will be published soon. To facilitate the increased development of Academy Guidance documents, the Content Development Committee was launched. The Committee is chaired by Allison Chambliss and several guidance documents including respiratory virus, health disparities/eGFR, and lipid testing are in various stages of development. The Test Utilization Taskforce continues its great work in publishing guidance on appropriate utilization of laboratory tests. The Taskforce has published guidance on 24 tests on the Academy webpage, which has received 47,760 pageviews since July 1, 2020. The Taskforce presented a few of the published documents to showcase this initiative and advertise these documents. Finally, Thomas Kampfrath and his editorial board oversaw the publication of 27 Scientific Shorts last year. Much of this great content is available on the Academy's Webpage; please check it out when you have an opportunity! Also, please participate in the latest discussion on our Artery page [here](#).

This year we will continue much of this great work and roll out new initiatives as well! Three new guidance documents focused on reproductive point-of-care testing, procalcitonin testing, and cervical cancer detection will be published soon. We are working on an updated Laboratory Medicine Practice Guideline on Diabetes in collaboration with the ADA. We are planning on two emergency department toxicology guidance documents. A collaboration is underway to develop reference intervals for transgender population with the College of American Pathologists. We also plan to publish case studies highlighting the clinical and economic impact of the clinical laboratorian on the patient care

team. In addition to the high-sensitivity troponin test case study that Hong Kee Lee's group is actively working on, we plan on laboratory interpretation of toxicology testing case study this year. This is in support of AACC's strategic initiative to highlight the value of laboratory medicine. Finally, we are hoping to add additional learning opportunities for our members by introducing a webinar series and other education initiatives. It definitely will be a great 2022-2023 for the Academy and its fellows.

The Academy has the honor of awarding extraordinary research in and contributions to the field of clinical biochemistry/laboratory medicine. This year's awardees were honored in person at our AACC Academy luncheon on July 27, 2022, at the AACC Annual Scientific meeting in Chicago, Illinois. The winner of the 2022 AACC Academy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Clinical Chemistry in a Selected Area of Research was Rossa Chiu, PhD, MBBS. The recipient of the Professor Alvin Dubin Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Profession and the Academy was Roger Bertholf, PhD, FAACC, DABCC, MASCP while the George Grannis Award for Excellence in Research and Scientific Publication went to Ruben Y. Luo, PhD, DABCC. Please join me in congratulating these deserving award winners. I would like to close by thanking our Past President, Dr. Alison Woodworth, for her incredible contributions to the AACC Academy this past year. The many successes of the AACC Academy are a testament to Alison's leadership. I want to thank the hard working and talented AACC Academy Council members for their service and time. Finally, I am extremely grateful to Stefanie Kleinman from AACC for the support. I am looking forward to working with many of you in the coming year!

I truly appreciate you, our Academy fellows! None of these programs would be successful without your contributions. If you are interested in volunteering for one of many committees or activities sponsored by the AACC Academy this year, please fill out this [form](#). I look forward to working with many of you this coming year to serve the AACC Academy, AACC, and the field of laboratory medicine.



Yusheng Zhu, PhD, DABCC, FAACC
AACC Academy President