



COLLEGE of AMERICAN  
PATHOLOGISTS

FOUNDATION

2020 SPRING/SUMMER  
MEMBER NEWSLETTER



## Pathologists on the Frontline of a Pandemic

The past few months have taken a toll on all of us, both personally and professionally. While pathologists and health care workers around the world may have been more prepared than the average person for the trials that a pandemic might bring, I believe it has been a sobering time and one of reflection on the role of our specialty.

I write this letter with both a deep sense of humility and pride. Humility for all those who have stepped up to help care for patients during this time, whether that was a health care professional, a CAP Foundation donor, or simply someone practicing social distancing to help keep others safe.

But, I'm also extremely proud of pathologists everywhere who rushed to develop life-saving tests and kept their laboratories running 24/7 in the face of uncertainty. I am certain that many more lives would have been lost if it wasn't for your efforts.

Looking forward, we continue to face the threat of COVID-19 while also continuing the testing, diagnosis, and laboratory management that is essential for treatment among a host of other diseases. Now, more than ever, pathology is at the forefront of quality patient care and will continue its significant role well into the future.

With all this in mind, I'd like to tell you about some of the initiatives the CAP Foundation has been undertaking. See, Test & Treat, the flagship program that provides free cancer screening to underserved patients, will continue this summer and fall after several host sites delayed their planned spring programs for the wellbeing of their volunteers and patients. The CAP Foundation is proud to promote preventative care even during difficult times and will support these sites as they make decisions regarding what is best for their communities. Many vulnerable patients with precarious employment situations will continue to need free health care services.

The CAP Foundation has also been working to make sure that our grants and awards stay true to the mission of the organization while being nimble enough to provide the greatest impact during this time. With that in mind, the John H. Rippey Grant for Expedited Research will provide funding for projects specifically related to COVID-19 to help the laboratories on the frontlines of the pandemic.

The CAP Foundation Board of Directors recently approved the Gerald R. Hanson, MD, FCAP, Global Pathology Fund to support opportunities for CAP members to volunteer, travel, and provide training

### FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Guillermo G. Martinez-Torres,  
MD, FCAP**

for pathology, patient care, and laboratory quality at the international level. Dr. Hanson has been a supporter of the CAP Foundation's mission to support pathology leaders since 1990.

On behalf of the CAP Foundation, I'd like to thank each of you for your commitment to health care. Please consider donating to the CAP Foundation to help ensure our continued impact on pathologists and patients.

I know that we are making a difference and look forward to seeing you all soon. Until then, be safe and be well.

Sincerely,

Guillermo G. Martinez-Torres,  
MD, FCAP

# CAP Junior Member Advocate for Patient Care

For Lianna Goetz, MD, pathology is as much a personal calling as it is a professional one. During her pathology residency program, she learned that a mass had been discovered during her father's colonoscopy screening—news that brought cancer home from the laboratory.

Having no gastroenterology pathologists in her parents' town, Dr. Goetz and her family awaited results as the specimen was sent to another laboratory for diagnosis. While her father's mass turned out not be cancerous, the experience was eye opening.

She said, "I felt what it was like to be on the other side of the table and although I was already interested in pathology, it was in this moment that I knew pathology was the field for me."

This passion for health care and pathology drives Dr. Goetz in her professional development and expertise to become a leader for the

specialty. Seeing an opportunity with the CAP Foundation's Leadership Development Award, Dr. Goetz applied and upon her acceptance traveled to the Residents Forum meeting in February 2020.

There, connected with other early-career pathologists while learning about the most important issues facing the specialty from time-tested experts and mentors. Dr. Goetz was able to learn more about the future of the specialty and where she will fit as a pathologist leader.

"Patient-centered pathology is the future of our field and forums such as the CAP Residents Forum provide a platform where these skills can be developed and honed," she said. "

With ever-changing technologies and testing methods, Dr. Goetz says it is essential to stay on top of these developments in order to provide exceptional patient care.

She said, "Being a CAP member and



Lianna Goetz, MD, accepts her Leadership Development Award from Guillermo G. Martinez-Torres, MD, FCAP, at Spring 2020 Resident Forum.

having updated information inspires me to learn more and adapt within this dynamic and diverse field."

Building on her already ample experience in pathology and health leadership, Dr. Goetz is looking forward to a career working with other like-minded professionals for the betterment of pathology and patient care.

She said, "Decisions are made regarding pathologists that ultimately affect patient care, whether or not pathologists are present at the table. Therefore, it is imperative that we as members are present to be seen and heard—the CAP has given me a platform and a voice to advocate for my colleagues and patients."

**"Patient-centered pathology is the future of our field and forums such as the CAP Residents Forum provide a platform where these skills can be developed and honed," she said.**



CAP Foundation board junior member Iris D. Martin, MD, presenting 2020 Leadership Development Award to Dr. Goetz.

**For the full article, visit the Our Stories page at [foundation.cap.org](https://foundation.cap.org)**

# See, Test & Treat Making an Impact in Texas in 2019



From left: Loan Tran and Xinh Nguyen discuss their experience at the Arlington, Texas, See, Test & Treat event with Ranjana Paintal, CAP Foundation program manager, and Jonathan Lam, MD.

Xinh Nguyen had some basic health insurance coverage through the Affordable Care Act, but said she was used to having to look after herself when it came to regular, preventative care like breast and cervical screenings. After losing her job and private insurance in 2017, infrequent and inconvenient checkups seemed to be the norm.

After hearing a radio advertisement promoting the CAP Foundation's See, Test & Treat® event in partnership with the Vietnamese American Health Professionals Association at Arlington Primary Clinic in Arlington, Texas, Nguyen and her friend Loan Tran decided to attend.

**Nguyen left the Arlington See, Test & Treat ready to spread the word to others in her community, "I have a lot of friends in my age group that do not have insurance, so I will surely tell my friends about this program."**

Not only were Nguyen and Tran able to receive free breast and cervical cancer screening during the conveniently timed weekend event,

they also got to learn a lot about their health.

"I'm am very happy to find doctors that speak Vietnamese and that people here are very helpful and attentive," said Nguyen.

Sang Wu, MD, FCAP, and Jaclyn Rudzinski, MD, FCAP, were the host pathologists for the Arlington event. This was Dr. Wu's fourth time as the leading pathologist for See, Test & Treat and a testament to his belief in the program's impact.

Jonathan Lam, MD, a family medicine doctor serving the Arlington area, was also on hand to discuss an array of health issues and treatment options, while social workers and educators were onsite to provide information on governmental health insurance programs, nutrition, healthy

lifestyle and habits, and hepatitis awareness.

In 2019, See, Test & Treat programs screened almost 900 women through 16 events in 11 states. These programs engaged almost 70 pathologists and 1,000 volunteers



From Left: Jonathan Lam, MD; Nguyen Nguyen, MD; and Trung Ha, MD, pose with their See, Test & Treat volunteer certificates.



Left Photo: Volunteers at the Arlington See, Test & Treat event celebrate a successful program. Right Photo: Two CAP Junior Members, Mariam Molani, DO, MBA, 2019 Leadership Development Awardee, and Neda Wick, MD, lend their pathology expertise to the See, Test & Treat in Arlington.

with the participation of 110 organizations.

As a result of free cervical and breast cancer screenings across 2019 programs, at least seven women have been diagnosed with cancer and connected with treatment through See, Test & Treat. With this opportunity for accessible, free services these women were able to get the diagnosis they needed and put on a path to treatment.

Of those patients who completed surveys seeking feedback on the events, over 90% responded that

they felt more comfortable seeing a doctor as a result of attending a See, Test & Treat program.

That was certainly the case for Nguyen and Tran on their December visit in Arlington where doctors and translators were able to describe their tests and subsequent results in the language that patients both felt comfortable with and could best understand.

Health care outreach to at-risk communities is essential, especially considering Asian American populations have some of the lowest

rates of cervical and breast screening among all ethnic groups in the US. Pathologists and their clinical partners recognize this essential outreach, which wouldn't be possible without partnerships like those with Hologic, Methodist Dallas Medical Center, and Quest Diagnostics who supported the event.

Nguyen left the Arlington See, Test & Treat ready to spread the word to others in her community, "I have a lot of friends in my age group that do not have insurance, so I will surely tell my friends about this program."

## CAP Foundation Grant Backs COVID-19 Laboratory Initiatives

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact laboratories across the country and there is an urgent need to better understand the pathobiology and clinical implications of the viral infection that lead to the morbidity and mortality seen with COVID-19.

The CAP Foundation is repositioning the John H. Rippey Grant for Expedited Research to provide funding for investigation of the impact of COVID-19-related tests, principally nucleic acid amplification and serologic methods, on patient outcomes, including studies related to process improvement, test accuracy, timeliness, and result communication.

Donate to support COVID-19 research at [foundation.cap.org/ways-to-donate](https://foundation.cap.org/ways-to-donate)

# Remembering Dr. William B. Zeiler, Past CAP President, Philanthropist Leader

As a pathologist, leader, visionary, and philanthropist, William B. Zeiler, MD, FCAP, dedicated a career and lifetime to the health of others. Dr. Zeiler died on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, at the age of 99.

Dr. Zeiler not only founded an innovative laboratory system but served as the president of the College of American Pathologists (CAP), the world's largest society of board-certified pathologists, from 1987 to 1989. He was known as an ambassador of medicine who continually advanced the specialty of pathology for the betterment of patient care around the world. Dr. Zeiler also made significant personal contributions to patient-focused causes. He established a substantial legacy trust that, with his recent passing, will now transfer to the CAP Foundation.

## Pathology Visionary

While he eventually became a leading physician in the study and diagnosis of disease, Dr. Zeiler first showed an interest in internal medicine while in medical school at the University of Pittsburgh.

"I wanted to put a year in the laboratory and reawaken my basic sciences," Dr. Zeiler said, in speaking with a CAP archivist in 2004. "The result was that I never got out of the laboratory."

In a visionary move, Dr. Zeiler recruited 19 fellow pathologists and investors and founded the Clinical Pathology Facility in Pittsburgh. His idea of a referral-based laboratory was a novelty at the time, but Dr. Zeiler's facility became the first laboratory to have a formal relationship with Mayo Medical Laboratories. Later, it merged with MetPath and other laboratories to become Quest Diagnostics. All the while, Dr. Zeiler continued to look through his microscope, diagnosing patients by analyzing specimens on slides.

When he wasn't in the laboratory, Dr. Zeiler became active in the CAP and served on various committees, eventually becoming president in 1987.

Patrick Godbey, MD, FCAP, current president of the CAP, holds his predecessor's legacy in high regard.

"Dr. Zeiler was a leader in the field and helped develop some truly essential programs for the CAP during a time of significant growth for the organization," Dr. Godbey said.

He also created the CAP Committee for Molecular Pathology, setting the precedent to develop pathology sub-specialties, a trend that continues to this day.

## Ambassador of Specialty Medicine

To ensure young doctors here in the US were well represented within their profession, Dr. Zeiler led the reorganization of the CAP's Residents Forum. Some 30 years later, nine in 10 pathology residents in the United States join the CAP's membership.

In yet another truly ground-breaking initiative, Dr. Zeiler was instrumental in building and opening the CAP headquarters in Northfield, Illinois, where about 600 employees work today.

Dr. Zeiler never fully retired, per se, as he continued his involvement in medicine. Ready to help in any way he could, he became a dedicated philanthropist for medical education and patient care.

## Philanthropist for the Future of Medicine

Dr. Zeiler also made significant contributions to patient-focused causes. He established a substantial legacy trust that, with his recent



passing, will now transfer to the CAP Foundation. The CAP Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the CAP organization whose signature See, Test & Treat® program provides free cancer screening and health education to underserved women across the United States.

Guillermo G. Martinez-Torres, MD, FCAP, president of the CAP Foundation Board of Directors, acknowledged Dr. Zeiler's contributions on behalf of the board.

"We want to express our deepest gratitude to Dr. Zeiler for his generous gifts, which will help ensure the CAP Foundation can continue to provide care for patients in need and help develop pathology leaders to follow in his footsteps."

In his "From the President's Desk" column in *CAP TODAY*, Dr. Zeiler often quoted famous doctors, philosophers, and writers. When writing on the death of a fellow pathologist, friend, and CAP member in 1988, he quoted Leonardo Da Vinci: "As a well-spent day brings happy sleep, so life well used brings happy death." Thirty-two years later, the same could be fittingly applied to Dr. Zeiler's own life and legacy.

**Consider donating to the CAP Foundation in his memory, and see the full article on the Our Stories page at [foundation.cap.org](https://foundation.cap.org)**



COLLEGE of AMERICAN  
PATHOLOGISTS

.....  
FOUNDATION

325 Waukegan Road  
Northfield, IL 60093-2750



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Gurnee, IL  
PERMIT NO. 208

## In This Issue

- **Pathologists on the Frontline of a Pandemic**
- **See, Test & Treat Makes Impact in Texas in 2019**
- **CAP Junior Member Advocate for Patient Care**
- **Remembering Dr. William B. Zeiler, Past CAP President, Philanthropist**

## Spread the Word

Follow the Foundation, keep track of our updated See, Test & Treat program schedule, and help share our stories and grant/award announcements with the hashtag **#CAPFoundation** or **#SeeTestTreat**.

-  [facebook.com/capfndn](https://facebook.com/capfndn)
-  [twitter.com/capfndn](https://twitter.com/capfndn)  
[foundation.cap.org](https://foundation.cap.org)

Donations: [foundation.cap.org/ways-to-donate](https://foundation.cap.org/ways-to-donate)