



SOURCE BUSIN

BY SONIA BALBONI

THIS YEAR'S BUSINESS FORUM in beautiful San Diego was a celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the IQPP Standards Program. Enormous changes have occurred within our industry over the past two decades, and members were ready to share their perspectives on the events that shaped the way we operate today. Attendees were warmly welcomed by Source Board Chair Ileana Carlisle, who gave an overview of the Association's activities that provide value to PPTA Source members. PPTA President Jan Bult then discussed the role of the Association in our changing industry environment. Mr. Bult gave us a glance at the results of a recent survey among members, stakeholders and staff on the current work of the



From Left to Right: Ileana Carlisle (Source Board Chair) Biotest Pharmaceuticals, Toni Atkins, California Assembly member, Joshua Penrod, PPTA Vice President, Source

Association, and explained how leadership is considering what they might mean for the organization's future direction.

Dr. Albert Farrugia (Vice President, Global Access) then treated us to an inspired discussion on donor motivations, first deliberating on the works of philosophers Titmuss and Mauss, and then analogizing Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs to the driving forces of donor motivation. Dr. Farrugia concluded that, while the whole blood and plasma sectors have distinct systems, they can "coexist productively and are both essential if we are to continue saving lives."

Sou-Tei-Gai! That was the take-home message from Mr. Shinji Wada (Grifols), who reflected on the industry twenty years ago, before the standards program or even the Quality Plasma Principles existed. *Sou-Tei-Gai* is a Japanese expression meaning,

"Outside of Assumptions," or "Never Even Dreamed of." Mr. Wada reflected on the commitment that many individuals and companies invested in developing a common set of criteria that every plasma collection operation should live up to, which ultimately resulted in the IQPP Standards Program that we now apply on a daily basis. Mr. Wada noted improvements and the higher level of confidence that stakeholders have now as a result of industry's efforts.

EKASH, PENFOLD / ISTOCK

ESS FORUM 2011

► Twenty Years of IQPP

However, he noted that in our industry new challenges have, in the past, emerged unexpectedly, and they will continue to do so in the future. Thus, he concluded, our therapies will be safer if we “continue to accept challenges as our predecessors did twenty years ago, with their convictions!”

Dr. Jon Knowles (CSL Plasma) gave an insightful presentation on the differing FDA and EMA inspection programs, with thoughts on what we might expect from both agencies in the future. Attendees were also briefed by members on the Association’s activities that provide value to PPTA Source members, including work on the Industry Image Campaign (Dan Gamache, Biotest Pharmaceuticals), a report from Source Board Treasurer Bill Bees

(Cangene Corporation), an overview of accomplishments by the Regulatory Affairs Steering Committee (John McVey, Baxter Biolife Plasma Services), and an informative look at issues confronting European collectors (Dr. Gerold Zerlauth, Baxter Healthcare SA).

Attendees were also greeted by California Assembly member Toni Atkins (D). PPTA honored Assembly member Atkins as State Legislator of the Year, for her sponsorship of the Medi-Cal Clinical Laboratory and Laboratory Services and for her work to promote patient access.

The event culminated in a reception featuring chocolates sporting the IQPP logo, designed by Dinstuhl’s Fine Candies of Memphis, and commissioned by Source Board Member

Larry Moss (The Interstate Companies). The PPTA staff thanks members for another successful event, and for their continued participation in the many Source programs that contribute to the overall success of the Association and the industry we represent. 🍫

SONIA BALBONI is PPTA’s Manager, Source & Standards



From left to right: California Assembly member Toni Atkins (D), Joshua Penrod presents Barbara Glantschnig of Baxter AG with an award for her years of commitment and service on the Source Board, and Larry Moss of the Interstate Companies

