State Affiliate News

State Oncology Societies: The Annual Meeting Booth and Accompanying Activities

First-time and returning visitors come from all over the globe to attend the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting because it gives them the opportunities to learn more about the latest developments in cancer care and research and to interact with their peers. This event, which attracts more than 30,000 people each year, offers symposia, workshops, and other resources for oncologists, such as the State Oncology Societies booth.

As in the past, the State Oncology Societies booth is a great place to receive information about state-specific projects and advocacy efforts; to meet state society leaders, members, and prospective members; and to interact with ASCO staff. This year, some features and events have been added to enhance the booth experience for members and nonmembers alike.

The booth, which will be located on the Exhibit Hall floor, provides ASCO State Affiliates and prospective state oncology members with the chance to network and learn more about events, initiatives, and member services offered locally. The booth is also an ideal resource for fellows who are planning to relocate to another state after completing their fellowship and are interested in making new contacts. Besides being a meeting place where state society executives and leadership can share best practices and other useful information, the booth is also a great way for societies to establish contact with potential corporate sponsors.

As a new initiative of the State Oncology Societies, fellows will be encouraged to visit the booth to interact with practicing physicians. Experienced oncologists can use this rare opportunity to answer questions that new practitioners

may have. State societies are invited to display materials and handouts in the Fellows Lounge. Also, past recipients of ASCO's State Affiliate Grant will participate in a poster display, which gives domestic members a great opportunity to find out what oncology-specific activities are taking place in their state or region.

Another component to the State Affiliates' activities during the Annual Meeting that should not be missed is the State Affiliate Presidents' Reception, an event that will include hors d'oeuvres and beverages. The reception, which is scheduled for Sunday, June 1, will be held to honor state society leaders for their countless volunteer hours. In addition to recognizing the State Affiliate leaders, who have devoted so much of their time to running effective organizations, the ASCO President will also announce the winners of the new Community Oncology Research Award and the State Affiliate Grant Program. All members of their state/regional oncology society are encouraged to attend this event.

The State Oncology Societies booth is a forum for oncologists to exchange information and ideas. Attendees should consider visiting the booth to make the best of their Annual Meeting experience.

For more information about the State Oncology Societies booth, visit www.asco.org/stateaffiliates or contact stateaffiliates@asco.org.

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