FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 6th, 2016

Dear CAHON colleagues and friends,

I am writing to proudly announce the appointment of Lei Zheng, M.D., Ph.D. as Vice President of CAHON to serve the 2016-2018 term with me.

Lei is Associate Professor of Oncology and Surgery in the Gastrointestinal Oncology Program at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. As a physician scientist, he plays a major role in the translational programs that focus on the clinical development of novel immune-based and antibody-based therapies for gastrointestinal cancers at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins. Lei is a perfect example of the triple threat in academic medicine. He is an outstanding clinician, a phenomenal tumor immunologist and a passionate educator. More information about Lei can be found in the attached bio on the next page.

Lei will work with the leadership team and all members to advance the mission of CAHON. Please join me in welcoming and congratulating Lei to take on this important task for CAHON.

Sincerely,

Zihai Li, M.D., Ph.D.
President (2016-2018)
Chinese American Hematologist and Oncologist Network
www.cahon.org
Lei Zheng, M.D., Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Oncology and Surgery in the Gastrointestinal Oncology Program and the Cancer Immunology Program and also a faculty member in the Graduate Program of Cellular and Molecular medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is affiliated with the Cancer Immunology Program as a R01-funded laboratory investigator and with GI Oncology Program as a clinical oncologist. He plays a major role in the translational programs that focus on the clinical development of novel immune-based and antibody-based therapies for gastrointestinal cancers at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins. His clinical work is focused on multidisciplinary management for resectable and borderline resectable pancreatic cancer. He has developed a pancreatic cancer immunotherapy research program on a neoadjuvant therapy platform and also a number of preclinical models of pancreatic cancer for developing innovative immunotherapy strategies. He has also applied his knowledge gained from pancreatic cancer immune-based therapies to the development of a colorectal cancer GVAX vaccine and is one of the lead investigators on this development. His primary laboratory research focus is on the understanding of the mechanistic roles of tumor microenvironment in cancer development and metastasis and the identification of new targets for pancreatic cancer therapies by dissecting tumor microenvironment of pancreatic cancer. Since 2013, he has already published over 40 peer-reviewed papers in these areas. He mentors graduate students, postdoctoral research fellows, residents, and surgical/medical oncology fellows in his laboratory. He is a past NIH K23 grantee and is now funded as PI by two NIH R01 grants and as co-investigators by five NIH R01 grants. He is a PI or sponsor of 6 investigator initiated clinical trials. He is a regular member for the NCI Grant Review Subcommittee J.

He graduated with an M.D. degree from the Peking Union Medical College in 1996. He then completed his Ph.D. training in Molecular Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and postdoctoral research training at the Rockefeller University. He completed his internal medicine residency training at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center (now the Northwell Medical School) and his medical oncology fellowship training at the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

He is a life-time member of CAHON and has been active in participating in CAHON’s academic activities. Representing CAHON, he participated in the 2015 and 2016 CCFDIE-CAHON Immune Oncology Conferences, the Third Immunotherapy of Cancer Conference, the COS-SITC-CAHON I-O Meeting in Taipei and the Yongling Forum at NTUCC in Taipei.

He is actively serving the Chinese American physician communities. He is a founding member and chairs the Board of Directors of Chinese American Physicians Association (CADA) based in the Greater Baltimore area. He is also a founding board member of Asian American Healthcare Center (AAHC) and has co-founded a charity clinic through AAHC. He also serves as Chair of Physician Advisory Board for Z&L Medical International, Inc., the company that has developed the Seedoctoorinusa® service. He is actively involved in the Baltimore-Xiamen Sister City Committee (BXSCC) and has organized multiple medical conferences in Xiamen.