

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



## MICHAEL RIVERS

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### TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF – WHERE YOU COMPLETED YOUR UNDERGRADUATE/POSTGRADUATE, FAMILY, WHAT A TYPICAL DAY LOOKS LIKE FOR YOU, ETC.

I grew up in Southern California and attended the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). About 10 years later, after moving to Tucson, Arizona, earned my MBA from the University of Arizona Eller School of Business. My wife, Sandy, and I just celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary (last December) and are blessed with two terrific young men. Danny (22) is a Senior at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Josh (13) is finishing up 8th grade.

### HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING WITH DIGITAL PATHOLOGY?

I've worked at Roche, in the Tissue Diagnostics division, for almost 14 years and have been fortunate to be able to lead the Roche Digital Pathology business for the last 4 years. Our team is based in Santa Clara, California and is composed of an incredibly diverse and highly motivated group of inspiring professionals. I love our team!

### HOW HAS DIGITAL PATHOLOGY DIRECTLY AFFECTED YOUR BUSINESS?

This is such an exciting time for Digital Pathology. I've seen the transition from DP as a side business to the realization that this will transform tissue diagnostics in a very fundamental and exciting way.

### HOW IS DIGITAL PATHOLOGY IMPACTING THE HEALTHCARE AND DIAGNOSTICS INDUSTRIES AS A WHOLE?

Digital Pathology is bringing tremendous benefits of automation and standardization, along with the potential of new medical value insights for pathologists through increasingly powerful applications of AI to whole slide images.

### FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE, WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON FOR YOUR USE OF DIGITAL PATHOLOGY?

Digital Pathology has an amazing potential to connect patients, clinicians and data in incredibly powerful ways. We're barely scratching the surface of the possibilities DP brings to global cancer diagnostics.

### WHAT DOES THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL PATHOLOGY LOOK LIKE TO YOU? PARTICULARLY, WHEN DO YOU SEE, OR DO YOU SEE ITS ADOPTION AS AN EVERYDAY OCCURRENCE?

The next few years will be tremendously exciting as Digital Pathology really becomes mainstream in the tissue diagnostics workflow. I think we'll soon see the introduction of powerful AI-based support tools into routine clinical practice. This will create a tremendous pull that will greatly accelerate the broad adoption of DP. Ultimately, I'm convinced that DP will contribute to better access for more patients globally and will raise the standard of care across the board.

### HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF THE DIGITAL PATHOLOGY ASSOCIATION (DPA) AND WHAT FIRST ATTRACTED TO YOU TO THE ASSOCIATION?

I've been an active member of the DPA and the Board over the last 4.5 years.

## HOW DID YOU INITIALLY GET INVOLVED WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION AND WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT INVOLVEMENT?

The DPA is an incredibly unique organization with its combination of industry members and professional (medical and scientific) members. This creates a stimulating and collaborative environment that is really a pleasure to be part of. I'm honored to be currently serving as the President of the Association and look forward to working with the whole DPA organization to continue to drive adoption and awareness of Digital Pathology.

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