Calendar
March 7-13, 2009
United States and Canada Academy of Pathology
90th Annual Meeting
John B. Hyman Convention Center, Boston, Massachusetts
March 8, 2009
United States and Canada Academy of Pathology
Fellows’ Fair – Room 317
John B. Hyman Convention Center, Boston, Massachusetts
March 9, 2009
Johns Hopkins Pathology Alumni Reception
United States and Canada Academy of Pathology
Sheraton Boston Hotel, Commonwealth
Boston, Massachusetts
April 7, 2009
Pathology Young Investigators’ Day
April 29-May 1, 2009
United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology
Symposium: Pathology and the Law in the 21st Century
John B. Hynes Convention Center, Boston, Massachusetts
April 29-May 1, 2009
10th Annual Mastering the Challenges of Cytopathology
Tremont Plaza Hotel; Baltimore, Maryland
May 15, 2009
Pathology Awards Dinner
The Constellation, Baltimore, Maryland
September 13, 2009
Employee Recognition Picnic
Conrad’s Cafe, Waterfront Park; Chase, Maryland

For Excellence in Basic Research
Juni Yang, Ph.D.
Edward C. Burger, Ph.D.
Kelly M. McCley, M.D.
Jianzhong Tan, M.D.
Rakesh Kummar, M.D.

For Excellence in Clinical Research
Julie K. Karp, M.D.
Joseph J. Maleszewski, M.D.
Andrea P. Sohriawong, M.D.
James M. Taube, M.D.

For Excellence in Translational Research
Shahadatul Haque, Ph.D.
Tanya D. Mongar, M.D.
Yuan Tian, Ph.D.
Zaixing Xiao, Ph.D.

Spotlight: Johns Hopkins Bayview Pathology
Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, opened its doors. Throughout the 1980s the structure of Maryland hospitals underwent some restructuring and the Almshouse assumed a greater role in medical care for patients. In 1985, Baltimore City and Baltimore County became separate legal entities, and this change also affected the role and location of the Almshouse. After the purchase of additional land outside the city limits a new building was established and the residents of the former “Calverton Almshouse” were moved to the new “Baltimore Bay View Asylum.” Over the next century this new structure underwent many changes. In 1929, with the influence of The Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland, Baltimore City completed a new general hospital, a tuberculosis sanitarium, a service building and a nurse’s home for the then renamed City Hospitals. As an aside, many of the photographs used by Arnold Rich in his textbook on tuberculosis come from patients hospitalized in the sanitarium. In 1935, a new 450-bed hospital, the present-day A-building, opened. After several decades of great achievements but also troubled financial times in an ever changing healthcare environment, City Hospital was transferred in 1984 to The Johns Hopkins University; the name was changed from City Hospital to Francis Scott Key Medical Center in 1984, and ultimately to Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in 1992. The Johns Hopkins Department of Pathology assumed administrative functions for the Clinical Pathology Laboratories in July of 1989 and for the Anatomic Pathology...
Pathology Research Expenditures Growth

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Annual Increase:
- 11% in 1999
- 16% in 2000
- 36% in 2001
- 7% in 2002
- 7% in 2003
- 2% in 2004
- 18% in 2005
- 6% in 2006
- 3% in 2007
- 11% in 2008
Awards/Recognition

2008 Jacob Chung Award
Gary Hill, M.D. received the 2008 Jacob Chung award from the International Renal Pathology Society. The Jacob Chung Award is presented annually at the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology’s Renal Pathology Society meeting to an individual who has had broad influence and leadership in the field of renal pathology. The award is supported by a fund established by Barnett Hospital, where Dr. Chung spent a large portion of his career.

2009 Ramzi Cotran Young Investigator Award
Christine Iacobuzio-Donahue, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Pathology and Oncology, will receive the 2009 Ramzi Cotran Young Investigator Award from the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology at their 98th Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, for her contributions to the understanding of the genetic and genomic features of pancreatic cancer, including the recent sequencing of the pancreatic cancer genome (see page 10). The Ramzi Cotran Young Investigator Award recognizes a body of work, by a USCAP member under the age of 45, which has contributed significantly to the diagnosis and understanding of human disease.

Metlife Foundation Award Winner
Philip C. Wong, Ph.D., Professor of Pathology and Neurosciences, was one of three recipients of this year’s Metlife Foundation Award for medical research in Alzheimer’s disease. This award was made in recognition of Dr. Wong’s outstanding work on the molecular mechanism and experimental therapeutics of Alzheimer’s disease. His laboratory focuses on the enzymes (namely β- and γ-secretase) that are necessary for the generation of amyloid β which is central to the pathogenesis of this illness. This award included $175,000 to Dr. Wong’s laboratory at Johns Hopkins to further his Alzheimer’s research in addition to a personal prize of $25,000.

2008 Louis Schmidt Award Winner
Norm Barker, M.S., M.A., R.B.P., Associate Professor of Pathology and Art as Applied to Medicine, was named the 2008 recipient of the BioCommunications Association’s Louis Schmidt Award, the professional society’s highest award. This award was given at the association’s 78th annual international meeting in Rochester, New York in July. The award is given for outstanding contributions to the progress of communications in the life sciences, promotion of professional relationships, and a willingness to freely share scientific information.

2008 UNCF-Merck Graduate Science Research Dissertation Fellowship
Shomaryr Swail, a graduate student in the Pathobiology program, has been awarded a UNCF-Merck Graduate Science Research Dissertation Fellowship. The fellowship spans two years, and she will travel to Merck headquarters in Pennsylvania to give a poster presentation and meet with other Merck fellows.

The Clinical Pathology Laboratories
The clinical pathology laboratories provide a wide variety of services in clinical chemistry, hematology, coagulation, urinalysis, immunology, medical microbiology, and transfusion medicine to the patients at Bayview Medical Center, its out-patient clinics, and the Care Center, as well as the surrounding community, including the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The clinical pathology department is staffed by one pathologist, Stefan Riedel, a clinical pathology resident, and 10 technical and clerical staff. During the fiscal year 2008, the clinical laboratory processed 1,088,961 specimens/test requests in the core laboratory and 63,961 specimen/test requests in microbiology. The blood bank provides basic transfusion services for patients at Bayview Medical Center, with an average annual volume of 7980 (+/-) requests for L-IRBC, 400 (+/-) platelets, and many other blood products and components, accounting for a total volume of 11,522 blood products, 8422 transfusions, and 15,250 cross-matches. In addition, Dr. Riedel provides consultation services to Bayview Physicians for questions related to clinical pathology, including appropriate antimicrobial management, transfusion practices, specialty products, and transfusion reactions. In the sections of microbiology and clinical chemistry, recent upgrades and improvements in laboratory technology, including newer improved blood culture technology, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, and new integrated chemistry analyzers, have improved the laboratory services provided to patients and physicians at Bayview. As a clinical pathologist, Dr. Riedel specializes in Medical Microbiology, his research is focused on the epidemiology and mechanisms of emerging bacterial resistance, and the improvement of laboratory methods for detection of bacterial resistance. Of special interest is the emerging resistances in gram-negative bacteria, such as Acinetobacter baumannii and Pseudomonas aeruginosa in patients with bacteremia/sepsis and burn wounds. Current studies investigate susceptibility testing of aforementioned organisms against all current cephalosporins, as well as newer investigational antimicrobials.

An additional area of research focuses on the development of newer methods and improved algorithms for the detection of bacteremia/sepsis. Studies in this focus area include the evaluation of newer inflammatory markers (e.g. procalcitonin) together with blood cultures in the diagnostic assessment of presumed bacteremic patients in the emergency department, ICU, and burn/wound center. Various collaborative research initiatives exist with the departments of Infectious Diseases and Infectious Control, Orthopaedic Surgery, as well as the Burn Center and the Anesthesia and Critical Care.

The Anatomic Pathology Service
The Anatomic Pathology Service at Bayview Medical Center provides a full array of services to the practicing physicians at The Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and the surrounding community.

The Surgical Pathology Service is staffed by six pathologists: Fred B. Akin is Chief of Pathology and a world authority in adult and pediatric pulmonary pathology. Edward Gahbrielson is a senior surgical pathologist with extensive research in lung cancer. Frank Kuhajda is another senior surgical pathologist with a strong research program in fatty acid synthase and its role in cancer. Mustafa Faig is an experienced surgical pathologist and cytopathologist with training and experience in pulmonary pathology, especially in non neoplastic lung diseases. He also directs the Cytology Service. Zehra Maleki is an experienced surgical pathologist and cytopathologist with an interest and experience in gynecologic pathology. Jill Allbritton is a dermatopathologist and a practicing dermatologist who serves as the primary dermatopathologist on the service.

Two experienced pathology assistants are on staff: Leigh Pleschkok and Gerrun March. In addition, two residents from the Department of Pathology rotate and assist with the duties in anatomic pathology at any given time.

The Section provides routine surgical pathology service with a well balanced mix of small biopsies and large specimens. Frozen sections and gross assessment are available 24/7. A state-of-the-art fine needle aspiration (FNA) clinic is available on the premises for the performance of FNA on superficial and accessible lesions. Two experienced cytopathologists are available for assisting with on-site evaluation and screening of cytopathological material and preparations.

The Service benefits and makes full use of the resources available at The Johns Hopkins Hospital including the superb expertise available for consultation. In addition, the immunohistochemical, molecular and flow cytometric laboratories are used on a daily basis for ancillary studies.

The concentration of pulmonary pathology expertise at Bayview Medical Center pathology makes it the main point for consultations from within and from outside Johns Hopkins. The Service handles approximately 9000 surgical pathology cases every year. The cytopathology service handles about 600 cytopathic preparations and FNA biopsies each year. The pulmonary pathology consultation service signs out more than 1200 cases each year with the vast majority coming from outside Johns Hopkins. The staff participates in many activities on campus including a weekly tumor board and Cyto/Histopathologic correlation conferences.

There is ample research activity within the department including basic science research conducted mainly by Drs. Gahbrielson’s and Kuhajda’s labs. Independent as well as collaborative research is provided by the other staff members in their respective fields of expertise.

Services in January of 2005:

Continued from page 4

Spotlight: Johns Hopkins Bayview Pathology

Continued on page 4
in his various functions, and participate in some of the financial and laboratory utilization management projects, conducted jointly between the clinical pathology department and the administrative offices at Bayview.

Since August 2007, the department has instituted regularly scheduled educational activities (“Lab-Rounds”), during which various topics in clinical laboratory medicine as well as current research topics are presented by Dr. Riedel, the CP residents, or invited speakers from other departments at Bayview. Pathology at Bayview also provides training of students in medical technology through a collaborative effort with Morgan State University and the University of Maryland. In addition, Dr. Riedel provides teaching to medical students, Bayview house staff and infectious disease fellows.

New Director of Postdoctoral Fellowship Programs

In July 2008, Christine Iacobuzio-Donahue, M.D., Ph.D., was appointed the Director of Postdoctoral Fellowship Programs for the Department of Pathology, a position that was held by David Berman for four years. There are 112 clinical and research fellows in the department from 22 different countries, and it is the goal of Dr. Iacobuzio as fellowship director to represent the diverse interests of all of our fellows, to facilitate continuous quality improvement of fellowship programs, and to make available opportunities within the department to supplement the fellowship experience.

Spotlight: Johns Hopkins Bayview Pathology

David Baewer

David was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He completed his B.S. in Medical Laboratory Technology at Marquette University, his Ph.D. in cellular biology and his M.D. at Medical College of Wisconsin. He has published numerous papers in the American Society for Gravitational Space Biology Bulletin. During his free time he enjoys hunting, home remodeling and spending time with his wife and infant son. David is pursuing AP/CP training.

Hillary Elwood

Hillary was born in Leonardtown, Maryland. She earned her M.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Before medical school, she received a B.A. in Biology from Oberlin College. Nearing the end of college, Hillary spent a month abroad in Tanzania comparing coral biodiversity at two reef sites near Zanzibar. A cat lover at heart, she worked with the Albuquerque Cat Action Team in New Mexico as a volunteer, fostering stray cats and transporting them to adoption clinics until they found a permanent home, or until she got too attached and adopted them herself! Hillary loves the outdoors and is always up for a game of kickball. Hillary is pursuing AP/CP training.

Department of Pathology Incoming House Staff, 2008-2009

David Baewer

David was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He completed his B.S. in Medical Laboratory Technology at Marquette University, his Ph.D. in cellular biology and his M.D. at Medical College of Wisconsin. He has published numerous papers in the American Society for Gravitational Space Biology Bulletin. During his free time he enjoys hunting, home remodeling and spending time with his wife and infant son. David is pursuing AP/CP training.

Erin Carney

She was born in Knoxville, Tennessee. She earned her M.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and previously completed her B.S. in Biology at the University of Tennessee. She is ready for Baltimore and has been teaching self-defense classes for two years. When she is not volunteering or giving a Dean’s lecture, she enjoys reading, hiking, skiing, and scrapbooking. Erin is pursuing AP/CP training.

Ming-Tseh Lin

He was born in Tainan, Taiwan. He attended National Taiwan University. He subsequently was awarded a Ph.D. in molecular biology where he studied molecular epidemiology and the integration site of human T-lymphotropic virus. Ming is an attending hematologist in Taiwan before settling down in the United States. He began his residency training at the Albany Medical Center in Albany, New York. After two years of training, he took the opportunity to come to Johns Hopkins for a 2-year fellowship in Molecular Genetics. Ming likes all kinds of sports including tennis and baseball. He especially enjoys watching Major League Baseball with his sons. Ming is with us for one year completing his AP training.

Mathew Olson

Mathew was born in Norman, Oklahoma. He earned his M.D. from George Washington University. During medical school, Mathew held a research position in the Proteomics Core Facility at George Washington. He subsequently participated in a research fellowship at the NIH in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the Section of Mass Spectrometry and Metabolism. He is an avid member of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry and enjoys photography in his free time. Mathew is an AP/CP resident.
Welcome to the Graduate Training Program in Pathobiology 2008-2009 Incoming Students

Kah Suan Lim

Kah Suan was born in Singapore. She obtained a B.S. in Biology from Nanyang Technological University in July 2008. Kah Suan is interested in cancer stem cells. She interned with the Singapore Oncogene Project where she identified and characterized various tyrosine kinase gene mutations and postulated associations to different cancer types. Kah Suan is interested in exploring novel therapeutic strategies against cancer and is certain that this is an area she will enjoy working in.

Laxmi G. Pellakuru

Laxmi was born in Pune, Maharashtra, India. “Lucky” graduated from Johns Hopkins University in May 2008 with a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering. Lucky would like to study medicine now that she has studied engineering, and she wants to learn more about disease processes and work towards prevention as well as treatment. She is currently working in the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center studying nitric oxide and prostate cancer. She will present her research this year.

Renata Shraybman

Renata was born in Kishwah, Moldova, but was raised in Boca Raton, Florida. She graduated from Cornell University in May 2008 with a B.A. in Neurobiology and Behavior and a concentration in Education. Renata has spent the past several years conducting research in immunology and virology, most recently with the entry pathways of feline coronaviruses. However, she is most interested in neuropathology both its molecular and behavioral manifestations. After her graduate work, she hopes to go on to an academic research setting, where she can continue to make an impact in the neuropathology field and impart knowledge unto others.

Hong Yuen Wong

Hong Yuen was born in Singapore and graduated from Nanyang technological University in July 2008 with a B.S. in Biological Sciences. He is interested in Cancer Biology and hopes to find a cure for cancer in the future. His honors year project involved the construction of EGFR-resistant POPX2 phosphatase mutants via site-directed mutagenesis. The engineered mutants performed phenotype rescue to ascertain the role of POPX2 and the requirement of its phosphatase activity in maintaining cellular stress fibers.

Teraneh Zarififar

Teraneh was born in Orange County, California. She graduated from the University of California, Riverside in 2008 with a B.S. in Biology and Botany. She is interested in neoplasia. As a graduate student she hopes to pursue the study of cancer in areas that focus on treatment and prevention. Teraneh would like to be part of the vanguard that leads in new discoveries on the progression and development of cancer, enabling the creation of better treatment options for individuals who suffer from the disease.

Johns Hopkins to Install New Laboratory Information System

The Department of Pathology and the Johns Hopkins Health System recently finalized a contract with SCC Soft Computer (Clearwater, FL) for a new laboratory information system (LIS) for Johns Hopkins Pathology. This new system, which will be deployed initially in the Core, Microbiology, Immunology and other selected laboratories, will eventually replace most of the functions currently performed by Johns Hopkins’ in-house developed LIS Pathways recently spoke to Dr Robert Miller, Director of the Pathology Informatics Division, about the replacement of the current Pathology Data Systems (PDS) laboratory information system.

What are the benefits of switching from an in-house developed system to a turnkey system from an LIS vendor?

We know that the current system (PDS) has features that were developed over the years specifically for our laboratories. The state-of-the-art in computer hardware and software, and the state-of-the-LIS industry have all advanced enormously since the early days of PDS in the 1970s and 1980s. The principal advantages of switching to a vendor LIS include improved overall LIS functionality: an improved graphical (“Windows”) user interface that helps reduce training time and minimize user errors, greater involvement of laboratory staff in configuring the LIS for functions such as inventory management and quality control, and the potential for improved management reports, improved laboratory service levels, and easier system expansion for new automation and additional outreach work. Important advantages of a vendor LIS to the PDS staff include help from vendor personnel with system support and troubleshooting — especially after hours and on weekends, and freeing of additional PDS staff time for other projects.

Why was the SCC LIS chosen from among the other potential vendors?

SCC Soft Computer (Clearwater, FL) is a privately owned, 30 year-old company with more than 1300 employees, 400 of whom are devoted to LIS development, installation and support. The SCC LIS was selected to replace our current system because of its extensive functionality for multiple areas of our service laboratories — although we will be deploying the system initially only in the Core, Microbiology, Immunology and selected other laboratories. Soft’s LIS product has the richness of functionality and maturity that is unmatched by other vendors – much less by ongoing in-house software development. SCC has approximately 500 systems installed under 500 contracts in hospitals and commercial reference laboratories, mostly in North America. In addition to Johns Hopkins, recent contracts include M.D. Anderson, the University of Michigan, the Mayo Clinic, the NIH Clinical Center, and Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, where the system supports a third of all microbiology testing done in the Toronto region.

How was the new SCC LIS selected?

Our selection process for the new LIS has been a complex and rigorous one, with assistance from internal IT and legal staff, and help from outside LIS consultants and attorneys. The evaluation and selection process has been overseen by a multidisciplinary steering committee that included Departmental and Institutional members. Multiple on-campus system demonstrations were provided by LIS vendors, and site visits were made to other institutions. The SCC LIS was clearly the system of choice.

What is the initial deployment plan for the SCC LIS here, and when will all areas of Johns Hopkins Pathology be using the system?

It will take approximately 20 months to configure and test the new system and to convert the Core, Microbiology, Immunology and selected other laboratories and functions from PDS to the new SCC LIS. The Surgical Pathology leadership has requested that upgrading of the Anatomic Pathology computer system be deferred until such time as SCC and/or other LIS vendors have developed additional desired functionality – which is anticipated to happen in the next two years. Transition Medicine has expressed interest in new computerization for the Blood Bank, and is currently investigating systems that may be suitable for Johns Hopkins. Plans for use of the new system in other Johns Hopkins Pathology service areas are currently being developed.
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Pathology Employee Appreciation Picnic

Over the years, the Employee Appreciation Picnic has been held at a variety of locations in the Baltimore area. In the past several years, the picnic has returned to Conrad’s Ruth Villa, a waterfront park located in Middle River, Maryland. This location is ideal for the large number of employees and families in the Department. With 12-1/2 acres on beautifully shaded grounds, waterfront views and cool breezes, the picnic provides the perfect place to relax, enjoy good food and have a good time with family and co-workers.

“My family and I look forward to the Department’s annual picnic. We love the food, especially the steam crabs, and we love Conrad’s Ruth Villa! The location provides variety–eat in the sun, shade, or indoors. You can take a stroll and view the waterfront. There is space for the children to enjoy crafts, although the adults like the crafts too. It was a beautiful day for my family and me to relax and eat together!” - Penny Wallace

Johns Hopkins to Install New Laboratory Information System

What are the Pathology faculty and staff’s views about this change to a new LIS?

Everyone who has been involved in this project to date has become very enthusiastic about changing to the new LIS. All stakeholders including Institutional, Department and Divisional leadership and faculty, the Laboratory and PDS staffs, as well as our Institutional IT group – both support and will benefit from this conversion.

How much will it cost to switch from PDS to the new vendor LIS?

The new LIS is a big project, time and dollar-wise, that will be paid for out of Johns Hopkins Health System capital budgets and operating budgets. Although the project will be incrementally funded, the 10-year total cost of ownership (TCO) for the new LIS will likely be about $20,000,000 – with an interesting cost breakdown: $5 million for software licenses and hardware, of which only $500,000 dollars will be spent for server hardware and storage; $5 million for configuration and testing, much of which will be done in the first two years; $5 million to the vendor and others for ongoing hardware and software maintenance; and $5 million for equipment upgrades, additional system support, and software customization. This cost breakdown is quite different than those of the early computer era, where 90% of the costs for an IT project were related to the hardware!

Any closing comments about this exciting new change?

This is a huge project, but I am confident we are doing the right thing. We have support from all involved, and we have a superb team to make the project a success by every measure.
New Faculty

Tamara Lotan  Assistant Professor  Kidney/Urologic
Eli Bar  Instructor  Head & Neck
Shanaz Begum  Instructor  Hematopathology
Jose Carlos Garcia-Garcia  Instructor  Neurology
Vasileios Ghalibis  Assistant  Microbiology
Kristin Galan  Assistant  Surgical Pathology
Jonathan Kohler  Assistant  Surgical Pathology
Matthew Kohnsager  Assistant  Gynecologic Pathology
Christopher Przybycin  Assistant  Gynecologic Pathology
Jennifer Scudiere  Assistant  GI/Liver Pathology
Brant Wang  Assistant  GI/Liver Pathology
Alicia Gable  Research Associate  Immunology
Hiraoki Kimura  Research Associate  Immunology
Tatiana Melnikova  Research Associate  Neurology
Mahnaz Motevalli-Oliner  Research Associate  HIV Research

Departures

William Baldwin  Professor  Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH
Rubin Tuder  Professor  University of Colorado, Denver, CO
James Dick  Associate Professor  Retired
Laura Guay  Associate Professor  Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, Washington, DC
Jason Daniels  Assistant  Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, MN
Jeffrey Iding  Assistant  Franklin Square Hospital, Baltimore, MD
William Ingram, III  Assistant  Presbyterian Hospital, Charlotte, NC
Silvia Marchetti  Assistant  St. John’s Hospital, St. Louis, MO
Coong Nguyen  Assistant  Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA
Joshua Wissell  Assistant  University of Colorado, Aurora, CO
Ghisla Yamada  Assistant  University of California, Irvine, CA
Mohamed Farah  Research Associate  JHU, Neurology
Iwona Fijalkowska  Research Associate  JHU, Pulmonary Medicine
Baojin Fu  Research Associate  Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Fiona Laird  Research Associate  Returned to England
Ergun Velidedeoglu  Research Associate  Food and Drug Administration

Promotions

Pedram Argani  Professor  Surgical Pathology
Douglas Clark  Professor  Cytopathology
Andrea DeMarzo  Professor  GI Pathology
Michael Goggins  Professor  GI Pathology
Constance Griffin  Professor  Molecular Pathology
Elizabeth Montgomery  Professor  Molecular Pathology
Le-Ming Shih  Professor  Transfusion Medicine
Juan Troncoso  Professor  Transfusion Medicine
David Berman  Associate Professor  Neurology
Kathleen Murphy  Associate Professor  Neurology
Hua Shan  Associate Professor  Transfusion Medicine
Maria Teresa Lee  Assistant Professor  Immunology
Tae-Li  Assistant Professor  Neurology
Anna Yemelyanova  Assistant Professor  Gynecologic Pathology
Daniela Ghiotova  Assistant Professor  Immunology

Citation Wall

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The Department of Pathology hosted a retirement reception for Jim Creech, Administrator of Clinical Services in July 2008, to celebrate his 20 years of service and wish him well. Pathology Chairman, Dr. J. Brooks Jackson, and Administrator Al Valentine, thanked Jim for his dedication and presented him with a watercolor print of the Hospital by artist Martin Barry, and a new leather briefcase. Jim has since moved back to his home state of North Carolina, where his plans include spending more time with family and flying his airplane.

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Our New Hospital
Pancreatic Cancer Genome Initiative

In a great example of the power of partnerships between philanthropists and scientists, the complete genetic blueprint for pancreatic cancer, one of the most lethal of all of the cancers, was decoded by a team at the Sol Goldman Pancreatic Cancer Research Center at Johns Hopkins. The study was led by Dr. Vogelstein, who has a secondary appointment in Pathology, and it included a number of other faculty from our department.

The team sequenced more than 20,000 genes in a series of 24 well-characterized pancreatic cancers and discovered over 1,500 DNA mutations in these cancers. The scientists identified 12 core signaling pathways and processes that were each altered in more than two-thirds of the cancers. These 12 core pathways provide the basis for novel diagnostic and therapeutic approaches in pancreatic cancer. The landmark study will guide research on this disease for the next decade.

The team included faculty from the Department of Pathology, including Dr. Joseph E. Eggleston, Dr. Michael Goggins, Dr. Douglas Clark, Dr. Constance Griffin, Dr. Brooks Jackson, Dr. Angelo De Marzo, Dr. Juan Troncoso, and Dr. Ie-Ming Shih.

This project was mostly privately funded, with the major funding coming from the Sol and Lillian Goldman Charitable Trusts.

Dr. Jackson and Our New Professors

Michael Goggins, Douglas Clark, Constance Griffin, Brooks Jackson, Angelo De Marzo, Juan Troncoso and Ie-Ming Shih

(Not Pictured)—Pedram Argani and Elizabeth Montgomery

Funding Our Future

Private giving is more important than ever in these hard economic times. Our funds and fellowships honor some of our treasured faculty and staff, and the funds and fellowships provide critical support for the training of talented physicians and scientists. Please consider supporting the department.

The Joseph Eggleston Fund in Surgical Pathology

The Joseph Eggleston Fund continues to support research conducted by our residents. In 2008, Justin Bishop studied the classification of non-small cell lung cancer, and Alex Heistrev examined the expression of HMGA1 in pancreatic cancer. Newly awarded recipients include Amy Duffield who will study the expression of FGF3 in B-cell lymphomas and Lisa Stoll who will investigate the prognostic significance of HPV-16 in situ and invasive squamous cell carcinoma.

The Yener S. Erozan Fellowship in Cytopathology

Although Yener Erozan officially retired in July, he continues to play an important role in the Division of Cytopathology as a mentor, teacher, and consultant. One way to express your appreciation for all that Yener has done for the Department and for the Division of Cytopathology over the years is to donate to this important fellowship.

The Robert H. Heptinstall Fellowship

Heppy is now retired, but he continues in periodically to visit friends. Paralleling Heppy’s emphasis on research excellence, the Robert H. Heptinstall Fellowship promotes research activities and clinical training of outstanding young pathologists pursuing careers in research.

The Donald L. Price Research Fund

This endowed position in neuropathology honors Don Price’s many contributions to neuroscience and to the Department.

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New Faculty

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<th>Primary Faculty Changes - 2008</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<td>Eli Bar</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>head &amp; neck</td>
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<td>Shanaz Begum</td>
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<td>Kathleen Burns</td>
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Joshua Wisez | Assistant | University of Colorado, Aurora, CO
Chica Yamada | Assistant | University of California, Irvine, CA
Mohammad Farah | Research Associate | JHU, Neurology
Sweta Fialkowski | Research Associate | JHU, Pulmonary Medicine
Baoqin Fu | Research Associate | Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Flora Laidl | Research Associate | Returned to England
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Daniela Ghițove | Assistant Professor | Immunology
**Congratulations to Toni & Customer Services!**

The Patient Safety Committee awarded Antonia (Toni) Alexander from Pathology Customer Services with a Johns Hopkins Safety Star. Toni was recognized for extraordinary actions taken to improve patient safety—ensuring a patient seen at a non-Hopkins outpatient site was contacted regarding a glucose critical action value. Toni received a congratulatory letter from the President of The Johns Hopkins Hospital and the Chairman of the Patient Safety Committee.

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**Pathology Employee Appreciation Picnic**

Over the years, the Employee Appreciation Picnic has been held at a variety of locations in the Baltimore area. In the past several years, the picnic has returned to Conrad’s Ruth Villa, a waterfront park located in Middle River, Maryland. This location is ideal for the large number of employees and families in the Department. With 12 1/2 acres on beautifully shaded grounds, waterfront views and cool breezes, the picnic provides the perfect place to relax, enjoy good food and have a good time with family and co-workers.

“My family and I look forward to the Department’s annual picnic. We love the food, especially the steam crabs, and we love Conrad’s Ruth Villa! The location provides variety—eat in the sun, shade, or indoors. You can take a stroll and view the waterfront. There is space for the children to enjoy crafts, although the adults like the crafts too. It was a beautiful day for my family and me to relax and eat together!” - Penny Wallace

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**New Grants and Contracts Awarded to Pathology Faculty, 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACULTY MEMBER</th>
<th>AWARD TYPE</th>
<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>TOTAL FUNDING ($)</th>
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Total $35,519,124

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**Johns Hopkins to Install New Laboratory Information System**

What are the Pathology faculty and staff’s views about this change to a new LIS?

Everyone who has been involved in this project to date has become very enthusiastic about changing to the new LIS. All stakeholders including Institutional, Department and Divisional leadership and faculty, the Laboratory and PDS staffs, as well as our Institutional IT group—both support and will benefit from this conversion.

How much will it cost to switch from PDS to the new vendor LIS?

The new LIS is a big project, time and dollar-wise, that will be paid for out of Johns Hopkins Health System capital budgets and operating budgets. Although the project will be incrementally funded, the 10-year total cost of ownership (TCO) for the new LIS will likely be about $20,000,000— with an interesting cost breakdown: $5 million for software licenses and hardware, of which only $500,000 dollars will be spent for server hardware and storage; $5 million for configuration and testing, much of which will be done in the first two years; $5 million to the vendor and others for ongoing hardware and software maintenance; and $5 million for equipment upgrades, additional system support, and software customization. This cost breakdown is quite different than those of the early computer era, when 90% of the costs for an IT project were related to the hardware!

Any closing comments about this exciting new change?

This is a huge project, but I am confident we are doing the right thing. We have support from all involved, and we have a superb team to make the project a success by every measure.
Continued on page 7

New Grants and Contracts Awarded to Pathology Faculty, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACULTY MEMBER</th>
<th>AWARD TYPE</th>
<th>AGENCY</th>
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Welcome to the Graduate Training Program in Pathobiology 2008-2009 Incoming Students

Kathleen Brennan
Kathleen was born in Baltimore County, Maryland. She received her B.S. in Biology from Towson University and her DVM from North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine in May of 2003. Kathleen is currently a Predoctoral Fellow in the Department of Molecular and Comparative Medicine at Johns Hopkins. She is currently working with Dr. Joseph Markowski in the Retrovirus Lab investigating the pathophysiology of HIV cardiomyopathy in an SIV/macaque study using longitudinal echocardiographic evaluations to assess alterations in cardiac phenotype. Her objective in obtaining a Ph.D. is to acquire the tools that will allow her to pose and answer essential questions about disease mechanisms to advance understanding of diseases.

Jacqueline Brusnan
Jacqueline was born in Haverhill, Massachusetts and graduated from Bowdoin College in May 2008 with a B.A. in Biology. She worked in the Susan Braunhut lab at University of Massachusetts at Lowell and the Sandra Gaston lab at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, where she focused on breast cancer and prostate cancer, respectively. Jacqueline completed Honors research in a neurobiology lab at Bowdoin. She is interested in researching the molecular biology of the hallmarks of cancer and would like to help prevent the loss of loved ones as a result of cancer.

Yu-Min Chuang
Yu Min received his M.D. from the National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan in June 2003. He received training as a pulmonary physician in Taiwan. He is interested in pathogenesis and host interaction. Yu-Min has published several articles and abstracts and was co-investigator in two research projects. These research projects involved clinical studies using pneumonia severity index to evaluate patients with health care associated pneumonia. The other research project was a one-year-long project of the Center for Disease Control, Taiwan focusing on patients with tuberculosis. Yu-Min would like to make a contribution to science by studying both the clinical and academic aspects of medicine. He is especially interested in interaction of intracellular pathogen and host and the mechanism of pulmonary disease.

Mehdi Erdinc
Mehdi was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and received his B.S. in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics from the University of Maryland, College Park in June 2006. During undergraduate school she received a Howard Hughes (Undergraduate Fellowship) for her thesis project “A genetic approach to phagosome maturation in Dictyostelium melanogaster.” She worked for two years as a senior laboratory technician in Dr. William Baldwin’s laboratory where she studied cardiolipin-receptor interaction. Mehdi has co-authored two publications in Transplantation. She feels confident that the Pathology Graduate Program will prepare her for a career as a research scientist.

Arvin Goun
Arvin was born in Medan, Indonesia. He has a B.A. in Molecular Cell Biology, Neurobiology and an M.A. in Endocrinology from the University of California at Berkeley. Arvin received his M.S. in May 2008. He is interested in Neuroscience, has published several papers and abstracts and now would like to study more on neuropsychology. Arvin would like to be like his mentors, doing research and teaching to inspire others. He comes to Johns Hopkins to work with the premier neuroscientists in the world.

Kihyuck Kwak
Kihyuck was born in Daegu, South Korea. He graduated from Sung Kyun Kwan University with a B.S. in Genetic Engineering in February 2006. He is interested in Microbiology and Infectious Disease, and his goal is to develop a vaccine that can bring hope to third-world countries. He plans to work for an international health-related organization so he can devote himself to the provision of inexpensive vaccines to low-income populations. His work in the Sahi-Neuroscience Laboratory established a scientific reason for hyper-responsiveness in children with fetal alcohol syndrome. Kihyuck is especially interested in the work of Dr. Sue Eshleman on HIV-1 mother-to-child transmission and HIV-1 drug resistance.
Welcome to the Graduate Training Program in Pathobiology 2008-2009 Incoming Students

Kah Suan Lim
Kah Suan was born in Singapore. She obtained a B.S. in Biology from Nanyang Technological University in July 2008. Kah Suan is interested in cancer Biology cell. She interned with the Singapore Oncogenome Project where she identified and characterized various tyrosine kinase gene mutations and postulated associations to different cancer types. Kah Suan is interested in exploring novel therapeutics strategies against cancer and is certain that this is an area she will enjoy working in.

Lexmi G. Pellakuru
Lexmi was born in Pune, Maharashtra, India. “Lucky” graduated from Johns Hopkins University in May 2008 with a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering. Lucky would like to study medicine now that she has studied engineering, and she wants to learn more about disease processes and work towards prevention as well as treatment. She is currently working in the Siddhy Kinmni Comprehensive Cancer Center studying nitric oxide and prostate cancer. She will present her research this year.

Renata Shraybman
Renata was born in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, but was raised in Boca Raton, Florida. She graduated from Cornell University in May 2008 with a B.A. in Neurobiology and Behavior and a concentration in Education. Renata has spent the past several years conducting research in immunology and virology, most recently with the entry pathways of feline coronaviruses. However, she is most interested in neuropathology both its molecular and behavioral manifestations. After her graduate work, she hopes to go on to an academic research setting, where she can continue to make an impact in the neuropathology field and impart knowledge unto others.

Hong Yuen Wong
Hong Yuen was born in Singapore and graduated from Nanyang Technological University in July 2008 with a B.S. in Biological Sciences. He is interested in Cancer Biology and hopes to find a cure for cancer in the future. His honors year project involved the construction of IGlu-resistant POP22 phosphatase mutants via site-directed mutagenesis. The engineered mutants performed phenotype rescue to ascertain the role of POP22 and the requirement of its phosphatase activity in maintaining cellular stress fibers.

Teraneh Zarifiar
Teraneh was born in Orange County, California. She graduated from the University of California, Riverside in 2008 with a B.S. in Biology and Botany. She is interested in neoplasia. As a graduate student she hopes to pursue the study of cancer in areas that focus on treatment and prevention. Teraneh would like to be part of the vanguard that leads in new discoveries on the progression and development of cancer enabling the creation of better treatment options for individuals who suffer from the disease.

Kishinev,
Continued on page 7

Johns Hopkins to Install New Laboratory Information System

The Department of Pathology and the Johns Hopkins Health System recently finalized a contract with SCC Soft Computer (Clearwater, FL) for a new laboratory information system (LIS) for Johns Hopkins Pathology. This new system, which will be deployed initially in the Core, Microbiology, Immunology and other selected laboratories, will eventually replace most of the functions currently performed by Johns Hopkins’ in-house developed LIS Pathways recently spoke to Dr. Robert Miller, Director of the Pathology Informatics Division, about the replacement of the current Pathology Data Systems (PDS) laboratory information system.

What are the benefits of switching from an in-house developed system to a turnkey system from an LIS vendor?

We know that the current system (PDS) has features that were developed over the years specifically for our laboratories. The state-of-the-art in computer hardware and software, and the state-of-the-art in LIS industry have all advanced enormously since the early days of PDS in the 1970s and 1980s. The primary LIS’s of three decades ago required 50-100 person-years of software development, compared to the thousands of person-years of programming required for a comprehensively contemporary LIS. Software development costs (and opportunity costs) now make in-house LIS development impractical and imprudent, but at the same time, such investments in software development by vendors mean that the modern LIS has very extensive and rich functionality and is unlikely to be missing essential features needed by institutions such as Johns Hopkins. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, we now have a faculty and staff who are sophisticated computer users who can make use of new LIS functionality to provide improved laboratory services and to conduct novel research studies that previously may not have been possible. The principal advantages of switching to a vendor LIS include improved overall LIS functionality: an improved graphical (“Windows”) user interface that helps reduce training time and minimize user errors; greater involvement of laboratory staff in configuring the LIS for functions as such as inventory management and quality control; and the potential for improved management reports, improved laboratory service levels, and easier system expansion for new automation and additional outreach work. Important advantages of a vendor LIS to the PDS staff include help from vendor personnel with system support and troubleshooting—especially after hours and on weekends, and freeing of additional PDS staff time for other projects.

Why was the SCC LIS chosen from among the other potential vendors?

SCC Soft Computer (Clearwater, FL) is a privately owned, 30 year-old company with more than 1300 employees, 400 of whom are devoted to LIS development, installation and support. The SCC LIS was selected to replace our current system because of its extensive functionality for multiple areas of our service laboratories—we will be deploying the system initially only in the Core, Microbiology, Immunology and selected other laboratories. SCC’s LIS product has the richness of functionality and maturity that is unmatched by other vendors—much less by ongoing in-house software development. SCC has approximately 500 systems installed under 300 contracts in hospital and commercial reference laboratories, mostly in North America. In addition to Johns Hopkins, recent contracts include M.D. Anderson, the University of Michigan, the Mayo Clinic, the NIH Clinical Center, and Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, where the system supports a third of all microbiology testing done in the Toronto region.

How was the new SCC LIS selected?

Our selection process for the new LIS has been a complex and rigorous one, with assistance from internal IT and legal staff, and help from outside LIS consultants and attorneys. The evaluation and selection process has been overseen by a multidisciplinary steering committee that included Departmental and Institutional members. Multiple off-campus system demonstrations were provided by LIS vendors, and site visits were made to other institutions. The SCC LIS was clearly the system of choice.

What is the initial deployment plan for the SCC LIS here, and when will all areas of Johns Hopkins Pathology be using the system?

It will take approximately 20 months to configure and test the new system and to convert the Core, Microbiology, Immunology and selected other laboratories and functions from PDS to the new SCC LIS. The Surgical Pathology leadership has requested that upgrading of the Anatomic Pathology computer system be deferred until such time as SCC and/or other LIS vendors have developed additional desired functionality—which is anticipated to happen in the next two years. Transfusion Medicine has expressed interest in new computerization for the Blood Bank, and is currently investigating systems that may be suitable for Johns Hopkins. Plans for use of the new system in other Johns Hopkins Pathology service areas are currently being developed.
New Director of Postdoctoral Fellowship Programs

In July 2008, Christine Iacobuzio-Donahue, M.D., Ph.D., was appointed the Director of Postdoctoral Fellowship Programs for the Department of Pathology, a position that was held by David Berman for four years. There are 112 clinical and research fellows in the department from 22 different countries, and it is the goal of Dr. Iacobuzio to represent the diverse interests of all our fellows, to facilitate continuous quality improvement of fellowship programs, and to make available opportunities within the department to supplement the fellowship experience.

Spotlight: Johns Hopkins Bayview Pathology

in his various functions, and participate in some of the financial and laboratory utilization management projects, conducted jointly between the clinical pathology department and the administrative offices at Bayview. Since August 2007, the department has instituted regularly scheduled educational activities ("Lab-Rounds"), during which various topics in clinical laboratory medicine as well as current research topics are presented by Dr. Riedel, the CP residents, or invited speakers from other departments at Bayview. Pathology at Bayview also provide training of students in medical technology through a collaborative effort with Morgan State University and the University of Maryland. In addition, Dr. Riedel provides teaching to medical students, Bayview house staff and infectious disease fellows.

David Baewer

David was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He completed his B.S. in Medical Laboratory Technology at Marquette University, his Ph.D. in cellular biology and his M.D. at Medical College of Wisconsin. He has published numerous papers in the American Society of Gravitational Space Biology Bulletin. During his free time he enjoys hunting, home remodeling and spending time with his wife and infant son. David is pursuing AP/CP training.

Erie Carney

Erie was born in Knoxville, Tennessee. She earned her M.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and previously completed her B.S. in Biology at the University of Tennessee. She is ready for Baltimore and has been teaching self defense classes for two years. When she is not volunteering or giving a Dean’s lecture, she enjoys reading, hiking, skiing, and scrapbooking. Erie is pursuing AP/CP training.

Hillary Elwood

Hillary was born in Leonardtown, Maryland. She earned her M.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Before medical school, she received a B.A. in Biology from Oberlin College. Near the end of college, Hillary spent a month abroad in Tanzania comparing coral biodiversity at two reef sites near Zanzibar. A cat lover at heart, she worked with the Albuquerque Cat Action Team in New Mexico at a volunteer, fostering stray cats and transporting them to adoption clinics until they found a permanent home, or until she got too attached and adopted them herself! Hillary loves the outdoors and is always up for a game of kickball. Hillary is pursuing AP/CP training.

Ming-Tseh Lin

Ming was born in Tainan, Taiwan. He received his M.D. from National Taiwan University. He subsequently was awarded a Ph.D. in molecular biology where he studied molecular epidemiology and the integration site of human T-lymphotropic virus. Ming was an attending hematologist in Taiwan before settling down in the United States. He began his residency training at the Albany Medical Center in Albany, New York. After two years of training, he took the opportunity to come to Johns Hopkins for a 2-year fellowship in Molecular Genetics. Ming likes all kinds of sports including tennis and baseball. He especially enjoys watching Major League Baseball with his sons. Ming is with us for one year completing his AP training.

Mathew Olson

Mathew was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He earned his M.D. from George Washington University. During medical school, Mathew held a research position in the Proteomics Core Facility at George Washington. He subsequently participated in a research fellowship at the NIH in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the Section of Mass Spectrometry and Metabolism. He is an avid member of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry and enjoys photography in his free time. Mathew is an AP/CP resident.
Awards/Recognition

2008 Jacob Churg Award
Gary Hill, M.D. received the 2008 Jacob Churg Award from the International Renal Pathology Society. The Jacob Churg Award is presented annually at the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology’s Renal Pathology Society meeting to an individual who has had broad influence and leadership in the field of renal pathology. The award is supported by a fund established by Barnett Hospital, where Dr. Churg spent a large portion of his career.

2009 Ramzi Cotran Young Investigator Award
Christine Tabachnick-Osman, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Pathology and Oncology, will receive the 2009 Ramzi Cotran Young Investigator Award from the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology at their 98th Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, for her contributions to the understanding of the genetic and genomic features of pancreatic cancer, including the recent sequencing of the pancreatic cancer genome (see page 16). The Ramzi Cotran Young Investigator Award recognizes a body of work, by a USCAP member under the age of 45, which has contributed significantly to the diagnosis and understanding of human disease.

MetLife Foundation Award Winner
Philip C. Wong, Ph.D., Professor of Pathology and Neurosciences, was one of three recipients of this year’s MetLife Foundation Award for medical research in Alzheimer’s disease. This award was made in recognition of Dr. Wong’s outstanding work on the molecular mechanism and experimental therapeutics of Alzheimer’s disease. His laboratory focuses on the enzymes (namely β- and γ-secretase) that are necessary for the generation of amyloid-b which is central to the pathogenesis of this illness. This award included $175,000 to Dr. Wong’s laboratory at Johns Hopkins to further his Alzheimer’s research in addition to a personal prize of $25,000.

2008 Louis Schmidt Award Winner
Norm Barker, M.S., M.A., R.T.(R), Associate Professor of Pathology and Art as Applied to Medicine, was named the 2008 recipient of the BioCommunications Association’s Louis Schmidt Award, the professional society’s highest award. This award was given at the association’s 78th annual international meeting in Rochester, New York in July. The award is given for outstanding contributions to the progress of communications in the life sciences, promotion of understanding and cooperation within the field of biocommunications, maintenance of an ethical approach to professional relationships, and a willingness to freely share scientific information.

UCNF-Merck Graduate Science Research Dissertation Fellowship
Shaminaya Sowal, a graduate student in the Pathobiology program, has been awarded a UNCF-Merck Graduate Science Research Dissertation Fellowship. The fellowship spans two years, and she will travel to Merck headquarters in Pennsylvania to give a poster presentation and meet with other Merck fellows.

2008 Jacob Churg Award
Continued from page 1

2009 Ramzi Cotran Young Investigator Award
Continued from page 1

Spotlight: Johns Hopkins Bayview Pathology
Services in January of 2005.

The Anatomic Pathology Service
The Anatomic Pathology Service at Bayview provides a full array of services to the practicing physicians at The Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and the surrounding community. The Surgical Pathology Service is staffed by six pathologists: Fred B. Askin is Chief of Pathology and a world authority in adult and pediatric pulmonary pathology. Edward Gabrelslen is a senior surgical pathologist with extensive research in lung cancer. Frank Kuhajda is another senior surgical pathologist with a strong research program in fatty acid synthase and its role in cancer. Mestafa Faqir is an experienced surgical pathologist and cytopathologist with training and experience in pulmonary pathology; especially in non neoplastic lung diseases. He also directs the Cytopathology Service. Zehra Maleki is an experienced surgical pathologist and cytopathologist with an interest and experience in gynecologic pathology. Jill Aliberti is a dermatopathologist and a practicing dermatologist who serves as the primary dermatopathologist on the service. Two experienced pathology assistants are on staff: Leigh Fischler and Gerson Marso. In addition, two residents from the Department of Pathology rotate and assist with the duties in anatomic pathology at any given time. The Section provides routine surgical pathology service with a well-balanced mix of small biopsies and large specimens. Frozen sections and gross assessments are available 24/7. A state-of-the-art fine needle aspiration (FNA) clinic is available on the premises for the performance of FNAs on superficial tumors and accessible masses. Two experienced cytopathologists are available for assisting with on-site evaluation and screening of cytopathologic material and preparations. The Service benefits and makes full use of the resources available at The Johns Hopkins Hospital including the superb expertise available for consultation. In addition, the immunohistochemical, molecular and flow cytometric laboratories are used on a daily basis for ancillary studies. The concentration of pulmonary pathology expertise at Bayview Medical Center pathology makes it the main point for consultations from within and from outside Johns Hopkins. The Service handles approximately 9000 surgical pathology cases every year. The cytology service handles about 600 cytologic preparations and FNA biopsies each year. The pulmonary pathology consultation service signs out more than 1200 cases each year with the vast majority coming from outside Johns Hopkins. The staff participates in many activities on campus including a weekly tumor board and Cyto/Histopathologic correlation conference. There is ample research activity within the department including basic science research conducted mainly by Drs. Gabrelslen and Kuhajda’s labs. Independent as well as collaborative research is provided by the other staff members in their respective fields of expertise.

The Clinical Pathology Laboratories
The clinical pathology laboratories provide a wide variety of services in clinical chemistry, hematology, coagulation, urinalysis, immunology, medical microbiology, and transfusion medicine to the patients at Bayview Medical Center, its outpatient clinics, and the Care Center, as well as the surrounding community, including the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The clinical pathology department is staffed by one pathologist, Stefan Reidl, a clinical pathology resident, and 10 technical and clerical staff. During the fiscal year 2008, the clinical laboratory processed 1,088,961 specimens/test requests in the core laboratory and 63,961 specimen/test requests in microbiology. The blood bank provides basic transfusion services for patients at Bayview Medical Center, with an average annual volume of 7800 (l) requests for Leukocyte Reduced (L-RRBC) or Leukocyte Reduced (L-RRBC) and Platelet products, and many other blood products and components, accounting for a total volume of 11,822 blood products, 8427 transfusions, and 15,250 cross-matches. In addition, Dr. Reidl provides consultation services to Bayview physicians for questions related to clinical pathology, including appropriate antimicrobial management, transfusion practices, specialty products, and transfusion reactions. In the sections of microbiology and clinical chemistry, recent upgrades and improvements in laboratory technology, including newer improved blood culture technology, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, and new integrated chemistry analyzers, have improved the laboratory services provided to patients and physicians at Bayview. As a clinical pathologist, Dr. Reidl specializes in Medical Microbiology. His research is focused on the epidemiology and mechanisms of emerging bacterial resistance, and the improvement of laboratory methods for detection of bacterial resistance. Of special interest are the emerging resistances in gram negative bacteria, such as Klebsiella pneumoniae, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa in patients with bacteremia/sepsis and burn wounds. Current studies investigate susceptibility testing of aforementioned organisms against all current carbapenems, as well as newer investigational antimicrobials.

An additional area of research focuses on the development of newer methods and improved algorithms for the detection of bacteremia/sepsis. Studies in this focus area include the evaluation of newer inflammatory markers (e.g. procalcitonin) together with blood cultures in the diagnostic assessment of presumed bacteremic patients in the emergency department, ICU, and burn/wound center. Various collaborative research initiatives exist with the departments of Infectious Diseases and Infection Control, Orthopaedic Surgery, as well as the Burn Center and the Hematologic and Allergy Institute. Through the “senior clinical pathology resident” rotation, residents in the pathology training program receive comprehensive instruction in all administrative areas of the pathology department. During this two-month rotation and through various other educational modules, Dr. Reidl instructs pathology residents in the basic and advanced concepts of laboratory management, healthcare economics and laboratory finance management, effective leadership and personnel management, various approaches to quality improvement processes, and laboratory utilization management. The pathology residents are actively engaged in the everyday operations of the laboratory assistant Dr. Reidl...
Pathology Research Expenditures Growth

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Annual Increase: 11% 16% 36% 7% 2% 18% 6% 3%

Director's Corner

patient outcomes and more cost-effective care. Achievements include less wastage of blood, fewer mishandled specimens, fewer unsuccessful phlebotomy attempts, and faster reporting of critical test values. Barbara Parsons and her staff—working with Division leaders, and QA/QC staff—deserve much of the credit.

Pathology is playing a leading role by implementing initiatives to increase the diversity of the workforce of Pathology at all levels. These initiatives include increasing the pipeline of underrepresented minority and women trainees in Pathology for student Pathology electives, the residency and graduate student program, and hospital staff positions through outreach programs at local high schools and active recruitment of underrepresented minorities from Johns Hopkins Medical School and traditionally African American medical schools for our residency programs. Women are well represented in Pathology training programs constituting 16 of 33 residents in the Residency program and 26 of 39 in the Pathobiology graduate student program. In the past two years, 5 of 14 (36%) faculty promoted to leadership positions.

In terms of our educational programs, 7 excellent pathology residents started this past July and 12 graduate students started in the Pathology program in September. A number of our faculty have been involved in the School of Medicine’s plan to redesign the medical school curriculum which will be implemented in 2009. It is envisioned that Pathology will play a major role in all four years, not just the predominant role it plays in year 2.

Despite the notable achievements this past year, the current academic year will bring new challenges including the change from JOCAO to the College of American Pathology for survey accreditation of the laboratories, probable reductions in philanthropy, flat NIH funding for grant awards, proposed government reductions in pathology pro fee reimbursement, and increasing documentation requirements in a number of regulated areas. Given the talent and hard work of our faculty, trainees, and staff, I am confident we will deal with these challenges successfully as well.

Research funding reached another all time high with an annual increase of 3.1% at a time when the NIH budget was flat (see figure 1). Over 250 lost or last author peer-reviewed articles were published by primary faculty in Pathology. In addition, donations of over $6.7 million dollars were received this past year from generous donors to support research in pancreatic cancer, neuropsychiatry, and HIV research in Uganda. These funds will support innovative research projects by junior investigators.

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Annual Increase 11% 16% 36% 7% 2% 18% 6% 3%
Calendar

March 2-3, 2009
United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology
90th Annual Meeting
Johns Hopkins Convention Center, Baltimore, Maryland

March 8, 2009
United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology
Fellows’ Forum – Room 317
Johns Hopkins Convention Center, Baltimore, Maryland

March 9, 2009
Johns Hopkins Pathology Alumni Reception
United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology
Sheraton Boston Hotel - Commonwealth, Boston, Massachusetts

April 7, 2009
Pathology Young Investigators’ Day 2009
Tiverton Conference, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland

April 29-May 1, 2009
10th Annual Mastering the Challenges of Cytopathology
Premier Plaza Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland

May 2, 2009
Independent Slide Review Day – May 2, 2009
Tremont Plaza Hotel; Baltimore, Maryland

May 10, 2009
Pathology Alumni Reception
The Delaplaine, Baltimore, Maryland

September 13, 2009
Employee Recognition Picnic
Conrad Bird’s Villa Waterfront Park; Chase, Maryland

Congratulations to the 10th Annual Pathology Young Investigators’ Day Awardees
April 17, 2008
The Department of Pathology again enjoyed an excellent turnout for this year’s Young Investigators’ Day.

For Excellence in Basic Research
Robert G. Barr, B.A.
Geral C. Badieano, M.S.
Kathleen H. Burns, M.D., Ph.D.
Tony C. Cornish, M.D., Ph.D.
Samarjit Das, Ph.D.
Melissa Landeck-Salgado, B.A.
Joan T. Park, M.S.
Chunjian Shi, M.D., Ph.D.
Brian Simon, D.V.M.
Yuan Tian, Ph.D.
Zuxiuang, Xiao, Ph.D.

For Excellence in Clinical Research
Julie K. Karp, M.D.
Joseph J. Makezowsk, M.D.
Andrea P. Selhub, M.D.
Yazid M. Taube, M.D.

For Excellence in Translational Research
Sudhakara Jagu, Ph.D.
Tony F. Johnson, M.S.
Rakesh Ramamoorthy, M.D., Ph.D.
Pandu G. Reshi, M.D.
Jing Li, Ph.D.
Aaron T. Tobin, M.D., Ph.D.

J. Brooks Jackson, M.D., M.B.A.

Despite the high gas prices and start of the economic downturn this past year, the Department of Pathology has witnessed another year of growth in every aspect of our business.

The number of laboratory tests performed by Johns Hopkins Pathology as reflected in Relative Value Units (RVUs) increased by 1.6% and outreach RVUs increased by 3.2%. Together with good cost control measures Pathology earned a contribution margin incentive of more than $900,000 while meeting the care needs of our patients. Congratulations are in order for the Pathology laboratory staff, lab management and directors for working to achieve this favorable balance which is essential to the funding of the new critical care towers due to open in January 2011 and the capital equipment needs of Pathology. The workload in Pathology has also increased at Bayview Hospital and Howard County Hospital by 5-6% and 1%, respectively.

In the area of patient safety, additional initiatives have been implemented with improvement in all patient safety dashboard goals to date. Continuous improvement in patient safety is an ongoing process which we believe will lead to better outcomes and better outcomes for our patients.

Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, opened its doors. Throughout the 1800s the structure of Maryland hospitals underwent some restructuring, and the Almshouse assumed a greater role in medical care for patients. In 1935, Baltimore City and Baltimore County became separate legal entities, and this change also affected the role and location of the Almshouse. After the purchase of additional land outside the city limits a new building was established and the residents of the former “Calverton Almshouse” were moved to the new “Baltimore Bay View Asylum.” Over the next century this new structure underwent many changes. By 1929, with the influence of J. Brooks Hopkins University and the University of Maryland, Baltimore City completed a new general hospital, a tuberculosis sanatorium, a service building and a nurses’ home for the then renamed City Hospitals. As an aside, many of the photographs used by Arnold Rich in his textbook on tuberculosis come from patients hospitalized in the sanatorium. In 1935, a new 450-bed hospital, the present day A-building, opened. After several decades of great achievements but also troubled financial times in an ever changing healthcare environment, City Hospital was transferred in 1984 to The Johns Hopkins University, the change was made from City Hospital to Francis Scott Key Medical Center in 1988, and ultimately to Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in 1992. The Johns Hopkins Department of Pathology assumed administrative functions for the Clinical Pathology Laboratories in July of 1989 and for the Anatomic Pathology

Spotlight: Johns Hopkins Bayview Pathology

Introduction and History
Pathology is an integral part of the patient care provided at Bayview Medical Center. Its outpatient clinics, the Johns Hopkins Care Center, and the surrounding community. Pathology at Bayview has undergone several changes during the past two decades and currently has seen faculty members. In addition to the clinical services provided, the faculty is involved in teaching residents and medical students, as well as research in various areas.

In 1773, the Maryland legislature authorized the purchase of 20 acres for an Almshouse “for the reception and the lodging of the poor.” In 1774, the Baltimore City and County Almshouse, the first institutional ancestor to the Baltimore City Hospitals and ultimately the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, opened its doors. Throughout the 1800s the structure of Maryland hospitals underwent some restructuring, and the Almshouse assumed a greater role in medical care for patients. In 1935, Baltimore City and Baltimore County became separate legal entities, and this change also affected the role and location of the Almshouse. After the purchase of additional land outside the city limits a new building was established and the residents of the former “Calverton Almshouse” were moved to the new “Baltimore Bay View Asylum.” Over the next century this new structure underwent many changes. By 1929, with the influence of The Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland, Baltimore City completed a new general hospital, a tuberculosis sanatorium, a service building and a nurses’ home for the then renamed City Hospitals. As an aside, many of the photographs used by Arnold Rich in his textbook on tuberculosis come from patients hospitalized in the sanatorium. In 1935, a new 450-bed hospital, the present day A-building, opened. After several decades of great achievements but also troubled financial times in an ever changing healthcare environment, City Hospital was transferred in 1984 to The Johns Hopkins University, the change was made from City Hospital to Francis Scott Key Medical Center in 1988, and ultimately to Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in 1992. The Johns Hopkins Department of Pathology assumed administrative functions for the Clinical Pathology Laboratories in July of 1989 and for the Anatomic Pathology

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