

PATHWAYS

JOHNS HOPKINS PATHOLOGY

Advancing the Field of Gynecologic Pathology

page 3

**SYMPOSIUM GOING
STRONG FOR THE
TENTH YEAR**

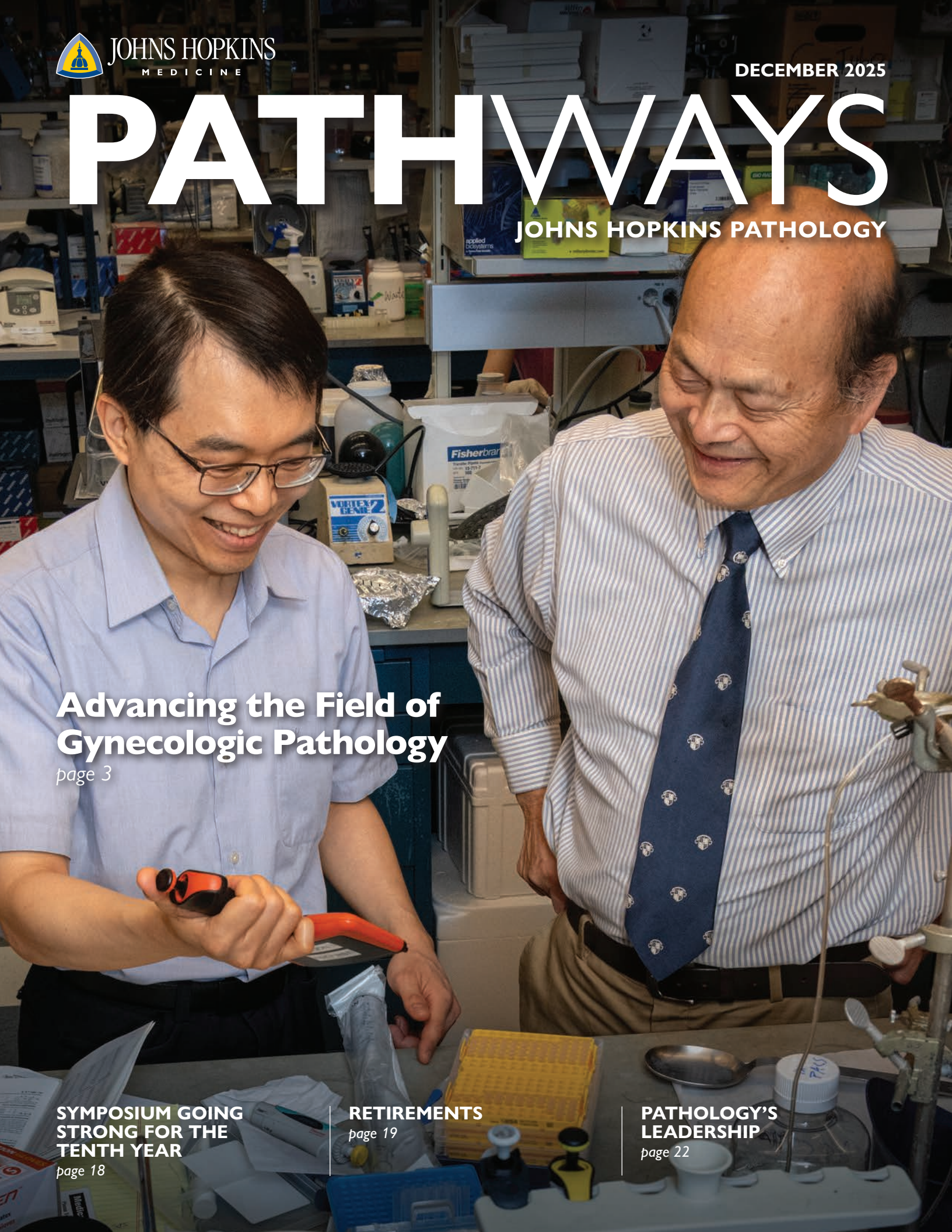
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RETIREMENTS

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**PATHOLOGY'S
LEADERSHIP**

page 22



DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Thanks to the hard work of our faculty, trainees, and staff, 2025 has been another great year for our department! A few of the highlights, and there were

many: our residency program was ranked #1 among all pathology residency training programs by Doximity (see page 16); the department was the second most highly NIH-funded pathology department in the world as ranked by the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research; and our clinical services introduced cutting-edge innovations ranging from “total lab automation” in microbiology (including AI-assisted reading of bacterial plates!) to validating digital sign-out of selected cases in anatomic pathology.

The year has also been marked by significant challenges. As the federal government shifts its funding priorities, our research programs have been stressed. Daniela Čiháková, M.D., Ph.D., our Deputy Director for Research, has helped the department navigate this rapidly changing terrain. Throughout this, our endowed funds, including our existing

endowed professorships, our newly created professorships (see pages 20 for the celebration of the inauguration of the Leela and Belur S. Bhagavan, M.D., and the León Troper Professorships), and our many named endowments, have proven critical for us as we weather these changes. Named endowments, both small and large, are not only beautiful ways to honor cherished faculty and family members, but, with ongoing changes in federal funding, they are now essential for the department's success. I encourage those of you who are able, to please consider supporting the department (see pages 8 and 9). Your support, large or small, makes a difference!

We continue to recruit for our newly awarded cluster of Bloomberg Distinguished Professors called “leveraging AI for high-dimensional spatially-resolved interrogation of cancer” or LASIC. The LASIC cluster will allow us to recruit leading interdisciplinary scholars from a variety of fields, including AI/machine learning, digital pathology, and data science. This group of experts will collaborate to develop AI-driven tools that advance our understanding of human diseases, that improve tumor classification and diagnoses, and that can aid in the selection of the most effective therapies for

our patients. We are excited! In parallel, with Alex Baras, M.D., Ph.D.'s leadership, the department continues to build our clinical and research digital pathology efforts. New slide scanners are in place, additional technologists are being hired, and digital sign-out is now a reality here at Hopkins.

Several leadership positions have recently been filled (see page 22). We welcome Brandon Ellis, M.B.A as our Interim Chief Administrative Officer; Bill Clarke, Ph.D., as our Deputy Director for Quality and Regulatory Affairs; Evan Bloch, M.B.CH.B, M.S. as our Deputy Director for Faculty Development; Daniela Čiháková, M.D., Ph.D. as our Deputy Director for Research; and Calixto-Hope Lucas Jr., M.D. as the Associate Program Director for Anatomic Pathology Residency Training.

Finally, although I'm certain the coming year will bring challenges, our new faculty (page 6) highlight our bright future. ■

Blast From The Past

What is this?
Answer on page 15.



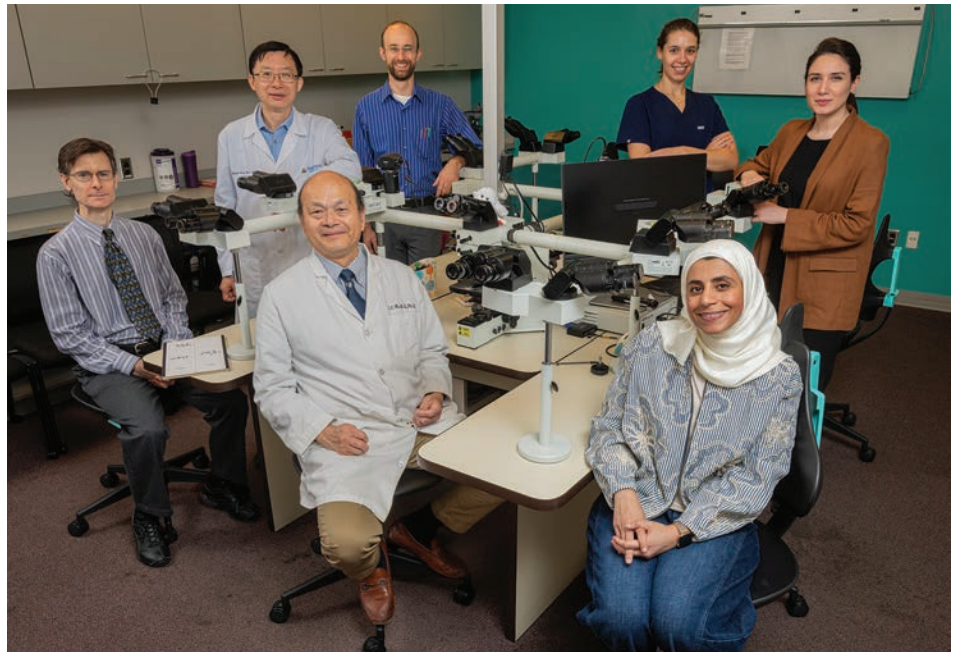
Advancing the Field of Gynecologic Pathology

INTRODUCTION

The Division of Gynecologic Pathology is a collaborative initiative within the Departments of Pathology and Gynecology/Obstetrics. Faculty members balance patient care, teaching, and research. The clinical service encompasses histopathologic diagnoses for all surgical specimens at Johns Hopkins Hospital and its affiliated clinics, alongside a national and international consultation service. The division also is dedicated to the education of medical students, residents, and fellows, and to maintaining robust research programs focused on ovarian, cervical, and uterine cancers, as well as papillomavirus-associated diseases, and trophoblastic tumors.

The Division is pleased to welcome Dr. Rofieda Alwaqfi as an Assistant Professor. Dr. Alwaqfi, who trained in anatomic pathology and completed fellowships in oncologic surgical pathology and gynecologic pathology before joining Johns Hopkins, has academic interests in gynecologic and breast cancer pathology. She has already received a Career Development Award for her project investigating CXCL13 in HPV-associated cervical carcinoma and response to PD-1 checkpoint inhibition, underscoring the division's commitment to translational cervical cancer research.

The division thrives on a highly collaborative research structure. Faculty collaborate across basic, translational, and clinical teams and often partner with colleagues in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Oncology, and other departments. This model facilitates the swift application of laboratory discoveries to clinical practice, ensuring that the division's scientific advancement directly enhance patient care. Such collaboration has supported significant multi-investigator grants, including renewals of Ovarian Cancer and Cervical Cancer SPORE programs.



Left to Right: Russell Vang, Deyin Xing, T.C. Wu, Jason Murray, Katerina Kearns, Rofieda Alwaqfi, and Delaram Shakiba.

DIVISION HISTORY

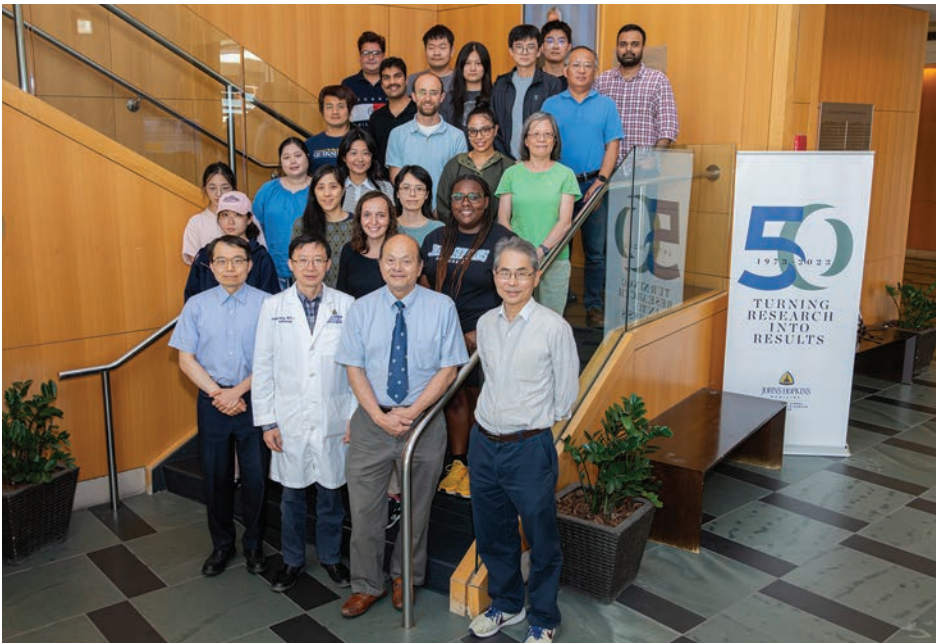
Founded in 1893 under Thomas Cullen, M.D., the Gynecologic Pathology Laboratory at Johns Hopkins pioneered the microscopic examination of operative tissues for diagnostic purposes, establishing gynecologic pathology as a recognized discipline in the U.S. Dr. Cullen's tenure combined clinical service with scholarship, producing definitive textbooks that set teaching standards in the field. Following his retirement, Emil Novak, M.D., took the helm, with his textbook serving as a guiding resource for nearly 30 years. In 1952, J. Donald Woodruff, M.D., a gynecologic surgeon trained in pathology, became director, leading the laboratory for 37 years and fostering the essential balance of clinical service, research, and education that remains central to the division today. Leadership later passed to Robert J. Kurman, M.D., an internationally recognized expert diagnostic pathologist

and translational researcher, and then subsequently to T.-C. Wu, M.D., Ph.D., who has served as Division Director since 2016.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Education has always been a cornerstone of the Division of Gynecologic Pathology, and the past year has seen continued investment in mentoring, teaching, and professional development across all training levels. Directed by Deyin Xing, M.D., Ph.D., and Russell Vang, M.D., the fellowship program remains one of the most esteemed subspecialty fellowships in the country. It is designed to provide comprehensive diagnostic training while simultaneously preparing graduates for academic medical careers, emphasizing research and teaching as integral components of the fellowship experience.

Fellows are fully integrated into the diagnostic service, actively participating



Members of The Division

in sign-out of both in-house and consultation cases. This hands-on training ensures exposure to the entire spectrum of gynecologic pathology, from common diagnoses to intricate and rare conditions. In addition to their diagnostic roles, fellows contribute to clinicopathologic and translational research, often resulting in publications and presentations. The program encourages independent inquiry while also supporting fellows through structured mentorship by senior faculty.

Teaching is a vital part of the fellowship experience. Fellows are responsible for guiding and supervising residents during their rotations, presenting cases at the gynecologic oncology tumor board, and participating in colposcopy correlation and reproductive endocrinology conferences. These experiences prepare them to take on leadership roles in multidisciplinary teams after graduation. Importantly, teaching extends beyond traditional conferences: fellows engage in informal case-based teaching during daily sign-outs, fostering peer-to-peer learning that enriches both residents and fellows alike.

Faculty remain actively engaged in education outside of the fellowship program. Dr. Xing has been particularly instrumental, teaching the Gynecologic Pathology Virtual Microscopy course for medical students and leading sessions for graduate students in the Basic Mechanisms of Disease Course. Residents rotating

through gynecologic pathology receive detailed instruction on slide interpretation and case presentation, equipping them with vital skills needed for broader pathology practice.

Beyond structured courses, the division fosters a culture of ongoing discussion and shared learning. Daily gynecologic pathology Q & A sessions bring faculty, fellows, and residents together to review interesting cases and address diagnostic challenges in real time. These meetings allow junior trainees to learn directly from experienced pathologists, while also encouraging open dialogue across levels of expertise. Monthly divisional meetings, known as “Oophest,” are held on Zoom and include participation from alumni across the country. This format maintains professional ties and provides a space for former trainees to share their work, creating a broad, supportive network of gynecologic pathologists connected through Johns Hopkins.

The division also welcomes visiting scholars and trainees from other institutions, both nationally and internationally, who come to Baltimore to gain exposure to Johns Hopkins’ approach to gynecologic pathology. These short-term training experiences broaden the program’s reach and reflect its role as a leader in education.

What distinguishes the division’s educational culture is its emphasis on continuity; trainees are not only taught

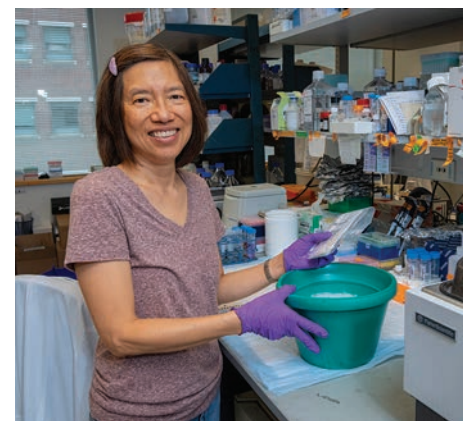
during their time in Baltimore but remain a part of a professional network that extends well into their careers. Many graduates of the program now hold leadership roles at academic centers around the country, carrying forward the division’s influence in education, research, and patient care. This enduring impact reflects a long-standing commitment to training that is both rigorous and collegial, preparing physicians for a lifetime of contributions to women’s health.

CLINICAL PRACTICE

Clinical service is the foundation of the division’s work. Cases range from common benign conditions to highly complex cancers requiring integration of morphology, immunohistochemistry, and molecular data for accurate diagnosis.

The division also supports a large consultation practice. The consultation service is valued for its depth of experience, as faculty frequently evaluate rare and diagnostically challenging cases. The service highlights the division’s national reputation for diagnostic expertise.

Faculty members also play an active role in multidisciplinary patient care. Participation in gynecologic oncology tumor boards, colposcopy correlation conferences, and reproductive endocrinology and infertility conferences ensures that pathology input informs clinical decisions at every stage, from diagnosis to treatment planning. These interactions allow faculty to share detailed histologic and molecular findings



Margaret Wong

with clinical colleagues, contributing to more precise and individualized patient care.

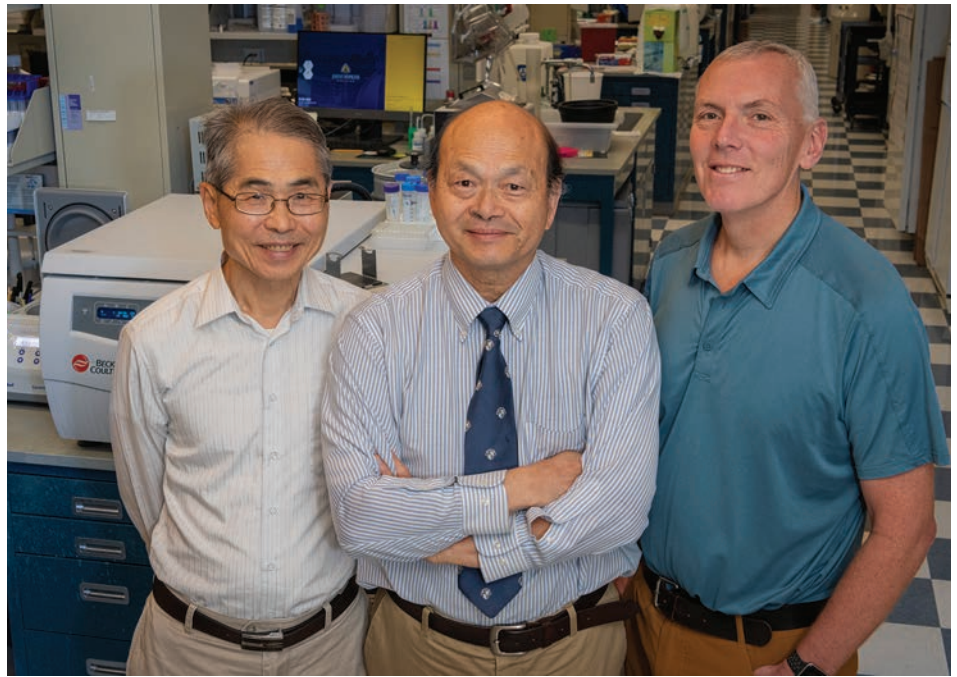
The division's clinical faculty – Drs. Rofieda Alwaqfi, Alex Baras, Ie-Ming Shih, Russell Vang, Deyin Xing, and T.-C. Wu – maintain a high standard of diagnostic excellence across this diverse workload. Their collective expertise covers the full spectrum of gynecologic pathology, with particular strength in ovarian cancer, cervical cancer and HPV-related disease, uterine cancer, and trophoblastic tumors. Faculty research in these same areas feeds directly into diagnostic practice, ensuring that clinical care remains at the cutting edge of scientific knowledge.

Another important part of the division's clinical service is its emphasis on collaboration and communication. Regular intra-division case discussions encourage consensus on difficult diagnoses and provide a venue for shared learning. These discussions, coupled with ongoing engagement in departmental quality assurance initiatives, support consistency and accuracy in reporting. Beyond routine sign-out, faculty often contribute to interdisciplinary projects, where pathology perspectives help shape research studies, clinical trials, and new approaches to patient management.

RESEARCH

Research in the division integrates basic, translational, and clinical efforts around three main themes: ovarian cancer with emphasis on early detection, cervical cancer and papillomavirus infection with focus on immunity and vaccine development, and uterine cancer and trophoblastic tumor biology. The division's collaborative culture links physician-scientists and basic researchers through joint projects, shared meetings, and multi-site SPORE programs.

Faculty members made strong progress over the past year. Chaun-Hsiang "Bear" Huang, M.D., Ph.D., advanced work on cell-signaling networks. His research is supported by The Sol Goldman Pancreatic Cancer Research Center and a Cervical Cancer SPORE pilot award. Deyin Xing, M.D., Ph.D., continued to explore morphology and molecular genetics and epigenetics in gynecologic cancers.



Chien-Fu Hung, T.C. Wu, and Richard Roden

He received a Developmental Research Program award from the Cervical Cancer SPORE.

Senior faculty also sustain major research initiatives. Ie-Ming Shih, M.D., Ph.D., and Tian-Li Wang, Ph.D., secured renewal of the Ovarian Cancer SPORE in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania, extending the multi-investigator program for another five years. Chien-Fu Hung, Ph.D., furthered studies in cancer immunotherapy, developing new therapeutic platforms, and maintaining support from the Commonwealth Foundation, the NIH, and the Cervical Cancer SPORE. Richard Roden, Ph.D., remains highly active, co-leading two of the Cervical Cancer SPORE subprojects, while overseeing a diverse portfolio of grants including Department of Defense ovarian cancer projects, and Commonwealth and NIH-supported HPV vaccine initiatives. T.-C. Wu, M.D., Ph.D., Division Director, obtained a new NIH R01 to study global disparities in cervical cancer, complementing the successful fourth competitive renewal of the Cervical Cancer SPORE, a project that has been ongoing since 2003.

Collectively, these projects illustrate the division's breadth, spanning fundamental cell biology, translational immunotherapy, and international public health, and they underscore how its research programs are designed to address both immediate

diagnostic challenges and longer-term improvements in cancer prevention and treatment.

Together, these efforts demonstrate the division's commitment to pairing discovery with clinical translation and highlight the impact of its collaborative infrastructure.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND GOALS

Looking ahead, the Division of Gynecologic Pathology remains committed to advancing its mission through continued excellence in research, clinical service, and education. The division's strategic goals focus on enhancing translational collaboration between clinicians and researchers, supporting faculty career development, and integrating clinical and laboratory work to improve patient care and advance medical knowledge.

The Division of Gynecologic Pathology at Johns Hopkins continues to uphold its legacy as a pioneer in the field while embracing innovative approaches that promise to transform women's healthcare. Through its unwavering commitment to excellence in research, education, and patient care, the division remains positioned to lead the field into the future, training the next generation of leaders and developing the treatments and diagnostic approaches that will benefit populations worldwide. ■

NEW AND RETURNING PATHOLOGY FACULTY

Tiane Chen, M.D., Ph.D.



Dr. Tiane Chen earned her medical degree from Lanzhou University in China and her Ph.D. from the Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology at the Chinese Academy

of Sciences. She pursued advanced research training through a postdoctoral fellowship under the mentorship of Dr. Mark Donowitz at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where she focused on infectious and inflammatory diarrheal diseases. Building on this foundation, Dr. Chen advanced her research expertise in Dr. Tatianna Larman's lab within the Department of Pathology at Johns Hopkins, studying the neoplastic transformation of the colonic epithelium. Following her residency training in anatomic and clinical pathology at Penn State Hershey Medical Center, she completed a fellowship in gastrointestinal and liver pathology at Johns Hopkins. Dr. Chen now joins the faculty as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Gastrointestinal and Liver Pathology, where she integrates her research background in gastrointestinal diseases and neoplastic processes with her clinical expertise to advance the understanding of pancreatic tumor pathology through both practice and research.

Andrew Clark, Ph.D.



Dr. Andrew Clark completed his M.S. and Ph.D. in Microbiology at the University of Arizona, Tucson. He then undertook a CPEP-accredited postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical

and Public Health Microbiology at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center in Bethesda, MD. Currently, Dr. Clark serves as the Director of the Bacteriology Laboratory at Johns Hopkins Hospital. His research program is dedicated to the clinical evaluation and

implementation of new and emerging technologies for microbial detection, characterization, and antimicrobial resistance testing.

Ozlem Kulak, M.D., Ph.D.



Dr. Ozlem Kulak received her medical degree from Ankara University Faculty of Medicine in Turkey and earned her Ph.D. in Genetics, Development, and Disease from the

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, where she also completed her residency training in anatomic and clinical pathology. She then pursued fellowship training in gastrointestinal and liver pathology at Johns Hopkins. Following her fellowship, Dr. Kulak joined the faculty at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital as an Assistant Professor of Pathology. In 2025, she returned to Johns Hopkins as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Gastrointestinal and Liver Pathology. Her research focuses on inflammatory bowel disease-associated dysplasia, pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors, and hepatobiliary pathology.

Ciera Mangone, M.D.



Dr. Ciera Mangone is originally from rural Pennsylvania and obtained a bachelor's degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA. She

completed her medical school training, along with a year-long post-sophomore fellowship in pathology, at Saint Louis University in Missouri. Following this, she underwent residency training in anatomic and clinical pathology at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She completed fellowship training at Johns Hopkins in general Surgical Pathology and Genitourinary Pathology, with a particular focus on Breast Pathology. Dr. Mangone is passionate about medical student and resident education and will take on the role

of course director for the medical student clinical elective rotations in pathology at Johns Hopkins. Her research interests include triple-negative breast cancer and prostatic neoplasms. Dr. Mangone joins the faculty as an Assistant Professor in the Divisions of Breast and Genitourinary Pathology.

Mike Mikula, M.D.



Dr. Mike Mikula received his medical degree from Albany Medical College in 2020 and completed his residency training in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at Johns

Hopkins Hospital. He completed an advanced fellowship in surgical pathology at Johns Hopkins from 2024 to 2025. Dr. Mikula joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and the Division of Head and Neck Pathology at Johns Hopkins Hospital in 2025. His academic interests center on the pathogenesis and diagnosis of head and neck tumors.

Shannon Murphy, Ph.D.



Dr. Shannon Murphy earned her Ph.D. in Microbiology from Cornell University. She completed her postdoctoral training in public health at the Wadsworth Center

(NYSDOH) and in clinical microbiology at Johns Hopkins. Her research focuses on the application of next generation sequencing technologies to antimicrobial resistance prediction and outbreak detection. Recent work includes detecting drug-resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* directly from respiratory specimens and implementing whole genome sequencing to investigate hospital-associated cases of *Candida auris*. Dr. Murphy joins the Division of Medical Microbiology as an Assistant Professor and Co-Director of Bacteriology.

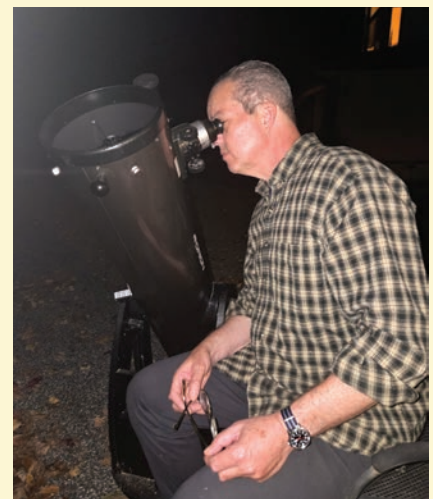
FACULTY CHANGES 2025

NEW FACULTY	Rank	Division
Tiane Chen, M.D., Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	GI/Liver Pathology
Andrew Clark, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	Clinical Microbiology
Ozlem Kulak, M.D., Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	GI/Liver Pathology
Ciera Mangone, M.D.	Assistant Professor	Breast Pathology
Michael Mikula, M.D., M.S.	Assistant Professor	Head and Neck Pathology
Shannon Murphy, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	Clinical Microbiology
PROMOTIONS	Rank	Division
David Nauen, M.D., Ph.D.	Associate Professor	Neuropathology
Christopher VandenBussche, M.D., Ph.D.	Professor	Cytopathology
DEPARTURES	Rank	Current Location
Norman Barker, M.S., M.A., R.B.P.	Professor	Retired
Karen Carroll, M.D.	Professor	Retired
Alison Gareau, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	University of Wisconsin
Christopher Gocke, M.D.	Associate Professor	Retired
Kiyoko Oshima, M.D., Ph.D.	Associate Professor	University of Pittsburgh
Patricia (Trish) Simner, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	Mayo Clinic
Lois Arend, M.D., Ph.D.	Associate Professor	University of Michigan
Lysandra Voltaggio, M.D.	Associate Professor	The Joint Pathology Center
Marissa White, M.D.	Associate Professor	Medstar
Claire Knezevic, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	Northwestern University
Jaelyn Murry, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	Greenwood Genetic Center
Liz Thompson, M.D., Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	Kaiser Mid-Atlantic Group
Laura Wake, M.D.	Assistant Professor	University of Maryland

Unusual Obsession

Dr. Charles Eberhart has loved astronomy since he was young, and as a child used to make small telescopes using cardboard tubes and chipped glass lenses from Edmund Scientific. Light pollution was less extensive then, and camping in rural Texas, Colorado, and New Mexico exposed him to the majesty of the Milky Way and fields of stars hard to see in our urban, LED-swamped skies today. However, a few years ago, he began to pursue astronomy more seriously.

This was prompted by a clinical fellow who mentioned at sign-out that he had recently purchased a telescope, and with great excitement told Dr. Eberhart about his views of Jupiter and Saturn. Inspired, Dr. Eberhart got out an old, cheap plastic telescope that he had previously purchased on Amazon and looked skyward that night for the first time in years. Trolling Facebook marketplace and Craigslist, within 6 months he had assembled a collection of 4 or 5 used telescopes of varying sizes and types. This picture shows him getting ready to look at comet Lemmon in a used 8-inch Dobsonian reflector, which cost \$300. Like all optics, however, the high-end stuff can get expensive quickly! He has also come to love binocular astronomy; noting that lying in a zero-gravity chair at night with some good binoculars is tremendously peaceful and fosters a direct connection to the cosmos. ■



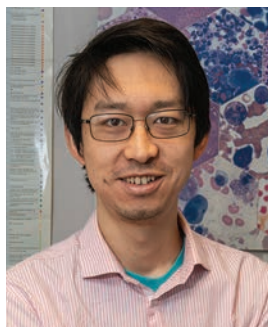
Star gazing

Private philanthropy is critical to our educational and research missions. The smiling faces of the fellowship recipients below tell the story. In addition to these fellowships, there are several funds that support trainee and junior faculty research.

FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS 2025-2026



**John K. Boitnott Fellow
in Liver Pathology**
Eric Young, M.D., Ph.D.



**Michael J. Borowitz
Fellow in
Hematopathology**
Samuel Law, M.D.



Breast Pathology Fellow
Sandra Sanchez, M.D.



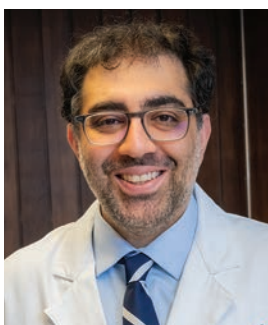
**Peter C. Burger Fellow
in Neuropathology**
Christopher Dampier, M.D.



**Daniel W. Chan Fellow
in Clinical Chemistry**
Jamie Haveman, Ph.D.



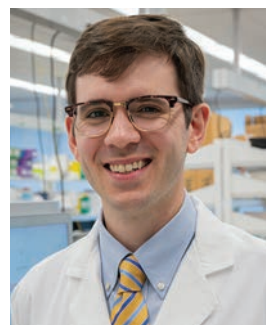
**Patricia Charache Fellow
in Medical Microbiology**
Kelly Wilson, Ph.D.,
MLS(ASCP)CM



**Yener S. Erozan Fellow
in Cytopathology**
Mohammad Salimian, M.D.



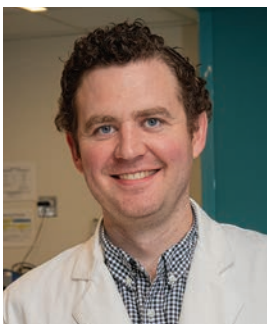
**Sol Goldman Fellow
in Pancreatic Cancer
Research**
Daniel Salas-Escabillas, Ph.D.



**Constance A. Griffin
Fellow
in Molecular Pathology**
Samuel E. Harvey, M.D., Ph.D.



**Robert H. Heptinstall
Fellow
in Renal Pathology**
Reid Wilkins, M.D.



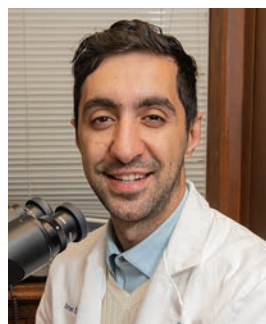
**J. Brooks Jackson Fellow
in Transfusion Medicine**
Tait Huso, M.D.



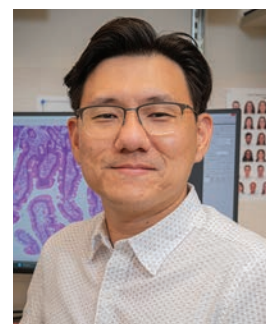
**Virginia O'Leary & John
C. Wilson Fellow in
Autoimmune Disease
Research**
Solmaz Roshanmehr, M.D.



**Lorraine Parent Racusen
Fellow
in Renal Pathology**
Aalaa Majaed, M.B.B.S.,
FRCPath



**Dorothy L. Rosenthal
Fellow
in Cytopathology**
Amer Swid, M.D.



**John H. Yardley Fellow
in Gastrointestinal
Pathology**
Jae Lee, M.D., Ph.D.

FUNDING OUR FUTURE

Please consider supporting one or more of our funds or fellowships. If you have any questions, please contact the Pathology Development and Alumni Relations Office (HopkinsPathology@jhmi.edu or 443-287-7949). If you would like to donate to one of these funds, please visit our secure site at <https://secure.jhu.edu/form/pathol>, scan the QR code at the right, or send your tax-deductible contributions payable to "Johns Hopkins University" to:
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income gift



An outright gift*
will be made to an
area of your choice



Immediate support
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designation



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the future needs of
Johns Hopkins

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JH150
YEARS

PATHOLOGY INCOMING HOUSE STAFF 2025-2026



Eumee Cha, M.D., is a Princeton, New Jersey, native who earned her bachelor's degree in biology and Spanish from Cornell University. One of her favorite memories from

college was studying abroad in Madrid, Spain, where she deepened her love for culture and language. She graduated from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where she served as president of PATHways, connecting students with an interest in pathology. As a medical student, Dr. Cha joined the laboratory of Tamara Lotan, M.D., to study the use of artificial intelligence and deep learning algorithms designed to predict metastatic outcomes in patients with prostate cancer. During her time in Baltimore, Dr. Cha developed a connection with the community, volunteering with local organizations and teaching English as a second language in Baltimore City. She is pursuing anatomic pathology and clinical pathology training.



Aaron Dobbins, M.D., was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, and raised in the mountains of the western part of the state. As an undergraduate at Campbell University

in Buies Creek, North Carolina, he was a member of the football team and received a B.S. degree in biochemistry. During his senior year, he was awarded the Faculty Award for Excellence in Biochemistry. Dr. Dobbins received his medical degree from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, where he helped kickstart the Pathology Interest Group and served as co-president for more than three years. During his first year in medical school, Dr. Dobbins developed his passion for pathology while researching the underlying mechanisms in CTNNB1-mutated endometrial cancers, a subset of tumors at high risk of recurrence. He is pursuing anatomic pathology and clinical pathology training.



Francesco Emiliani, M.D., Ph.D., was born in Milano, Italy, but moved to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, at age six. He pursued a combined B.A. and M.S. degree in neuroscience at

Johns Hopkins while conducting research on the role of oxidative stress in psychiatric disorders with Akira Sawa, M.D. After graduating, he spent two years honing his molecular biology skills in the laboratory of Jeremy Nathans, M.D., Ph.D., at Johns Hopkins. Dr. Emiliani moved to New Hampshire to pursue his M.D./Ph.D. at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College. For his thesis, he developed CRISPR-based tools for cellular lineage tracing in the laboratory of Aaron McKenna, Ph.D. Towards the end of his PhD, he worked in the pathology laboratory of Chun- Chieh Lin, Ph.D., developing nanopore-based assays for rapid diagnostics, an interest he plans to continue pursuing during his residency in anatomic pathology at Johns Hopkins. He eventually wishes to pursue a fellowship in molecular pathology.



Justin Johnson, M.D., Ph.D., was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and raised in southern Georgia. He received a B.S. degree in molecular biochemistry and biophysics at Yale

University. He then joined the M.D./Ph.D. program at Yale University and, for his doctoral thesis in the Department of Immunobiology, studied how IFN γ production by intraepithelial T-cells contributes to epithelial injury in celiac disease. Dr. Johnson is pursuing anatomic pathology and clinical pathology training.



Seth Moore, M.D., Ph.D., was born and raised in Syracuse, New York, and received his B.S. degree in biological sciences from Cornell University. After his undergraduate studies,

he worked as a laboratory technician at Syracuse University, investigating the therapeutic potential of vitamin D in a murine model of Rett syndrome. His passion for biomedical research led him to the M.D./Ph.D. Program at the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the State University of New York at Buffalo. His graduate work focused on evaluating novel treatment approaches in mouse models of inherited demyelinating peripheral neuropathies, which included pharmacologically activating proteasomes and genetic modulation of transcriptional coactivators. Dr. Moore explored his passion for teaching throughout his undergraduate and graduate work and hopes to continue this during his residency training. He is pursuing anatomic pathology and clinical pathology training.



Daniel Shou, M.D., was born in Kansas and grew up in Clarksburg, Maryland. He graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park, with a bachelor's degree in biology.

As an undergraduate, he conducted research on transgenic gene silencing in the roundworm *C. elegans* and tutored elementary school students. He also volunteered at the local fire station, where he became a firefighter and emergency medical technician. Dr. Shou earned his medical degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He became interested in pathology during his preclinical coursework. During medical school, he was involved in the pathology interest group and mentored pre-medical and medical students. As a third-year medical student, he was the recipient of the William H. Welch Medical Student Award. Dr. Shou is pursuing anatomic pathology and clinical pathology training.



Alexandra Vlk, M.D., Ph.D., was born in Towson, Maryland, and raised in Cockeysville. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Towson University,

double majoring in biology and chemistry and minoring in physics. During her undergraduate years, she contributed to research in molecular ecology, experimental physical chemistry, and translational cancer research. These experiences helped her recognize her passion for investigating the unknown through research. She pursued her M.D./Ph.D. at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, where her doctoral thesis was on innate immunology, studying the role of two single nucleotide polymorphisms in Toll-like receptor 4 (TLR4) in the severity of murine inflammatory bowel disease, finding that these mutations conferred a reduced ability to polarize macrophages to a tissue repair M2 phenotype. Dr. Vlk earned her medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, where she developed her interest in pathology. She is pursuing anatomic pathology and clinical pathology training.



Yu Wang, M.D., Ph.D., was born and raised in Hebei, China. She completed her Bachelor of Science degree at Jilin University in Changchun where her research focused

on tellurium-containing glutathione peroxidase mimics and the genetic variability of CYP2C9. After graduating, she came to the United States to pursue a Ph.D. at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. Dr. Wang contributed to the understanding of bifunctional KatG and developed a plasmid construct for the expression of shikimate kinase in the laboratory of Douglas Goodwin, Ph.D. Subsequently, she joined the laboratory of Robert White, M.D., in the Department of Biochemistry at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg for postdoctoral research. There, Dr. Wang achieved a milestone by elucidating the biosynthesis pathway of

A Unique Gift

Joan Lam was dedicated to the advancement of research in pathology and public health. She was born in China in 1938 and spent her childhood there before emigrating with her family to San Francisco, California where she lived the majority of her life. In 1962, she earned her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health, where she also developed a lifelong passion for the arts. In addition to her career as a laboratory pathology technologist, she enjoyed traveling the world as a choral performer. For 25 years, she participated in the Baltimore Longitudinal Study on Aging, the country's most comprehensive and longest-running examination of human aging. Funded by the National Institute on Aging at the National Institutes of Health, the study began in 1958 and has followed more than 3,200 volunteers, including Lam, who agreed to contribute to the research for life. As part of her participation, Lam regularly traveled to Baltimore for evaluations during which she formed a strong connection with the Johns Hopkins Division of Neuropathology in the Department of Pathology. Impressed with the Division's research in dementia, Lam arranged for her brain to be donated to the Division upon her passing. Additionally, she made a generous gift through her trust to establish The Ruan Mu Lan Endowed Alzheimer's Disease Research Fund, in recognition of her birth name. She passed away in April of 2023. Through her generosity, Lam's commitment helps to further the understanding of aging, Alzheimer's, and other related conditions for generations to come.



methanofuran. Following her training, she joined the faculty at the University of North Georgia in Dahlonega, where she taught biochemistry, supervised undergraduate research projects, and served as a pre-medical advisor. Dr. Wang achieved tenure and was promoted to associate professor. She then pursued a medical degree at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, where she conducted research discovering biomarkers for the development of rapid diagnostic solutions. She was also engaged in a community health initiative, which aided local elementary school students from underprivileged backgrounds by fostering preventive care, mentorship, and education. During her third year, she was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha and graduated Magna Cum Laude. Dr. Wang enjoys writing articles designed to inspire younger generations' interest in science and medicine. She is pursuing anatomic pathology and clinical pathology training.



Briana Wilson, M.D., Ph.D., was born and raised in Statesville, North Carolina. She received her bachelor's degree from Duke University in Durham, where she studied

philosophy. She then obtained a master's degree in physiology at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, where she developed an interest in biochemistry and molecular biology research. She then pursued her M.D. and Ph.D. at the University of Virginia School of Medicine in Charlottesville, where her graduate work focused on small RNA regulation. Dr. Wilson's interest in neuropathology grew during a fourth-year elective, leading her to pursue anatomic pathology and neuropathology training at Johns Hopkins. Her research interests include neurodegeneration, particularly alpha-synucleinopathies.

GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAM IN PATHOLOGY 2025-2026



Naya Amauri, B.S. was born and raised in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. She moved to Arizona in 2015, where she earned an Associate of Arts and Sciences degree from Phoenix Community

College. Ms. Amauri transferred to the University of Arizona's Science, Engineering, and Math Scholars Program, where she graduated with a B.S. degree in neurobiology and minors in biochemistry and philosophy, magna cum laude. At the University of Arizona, her research journey began through the Maximizing Access to Research Careers Program, where she investigated the effects of alpha-synuclein overexpression in a zebra finch model for Parkinson's disease. She then completed a post-baccalaureate fellowship at Vanderbilt University, studying the role of MCL-1 in oligodendrocyte maturation and survival. Ms. Amauri then worked at the University of Maryland, examining how kynurenic acid, a tryptophan metabolite, contributes to the pathophysiology of schizophrenia. She was drawn to the Johns Hopkins Pathobiology Program for its commitment to scientific integrity and translational research and connected with the faculty who share her values and passion for curiosity-driven science and meaningful discovery.



Wei-Yu Chen, M.S. is from Taipei, Taiwan, and received her bachelor's degree in life science from the National Tsing Hua University in 2021. As an undergraduate, she developed a strong

interest in immunology, microbiology, and animal physiology, which led her to join the laboratory of Hsien-Sheng Yin, Ph.D. There, Ms. Chen conducted independent research on a novel, single-shot vaccine adjuvant for Newcastle disease in chickens. By engineering a recombinant chicken IL-1 β , she observed enhanced antibody responses and goblet cell hyperplasia, highlighting its potential as an effective adjuvant. To further explore her interest in vaccine development, Ms. Chen joined the laboratory of Chia-Chi Ku, Ph.D., at

the Graduate Institute of Immunology at the National Taiwan University College of Medicine, where she earned her master's degree. Her master's thesis focused on developing vaccines for the Japanese encephalitis virus and the Zika virus. She discovered that plaque-purified virus clones induced stronger innate immune responses and greater immunogenicity compared to unpurified isolates. These findings provided valuable insights for effective vaccine design and contributed to ongoing efforts to combat emerging infectious diseases. Ms. Chen has a passion for translational immunology and vaccine development, particularly in addressing global health, emergent infectious diseases, and possible novel cancer therapeutics and prophylaxis.



Iris Farnum, B.S. is from Portland, Oregon, and received her B.S. degree in biology and Spanish from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. During her

undergraduate years, she worked in the laboratory of Denise Flaherty, Ph.D., studying Parkinson's disease using a *C. elegans* model. The summer before her senior year, Ms. Farnum worked in the laboratory of James Gusella, Ph.D., at the Center for Genomic Medicine at Massachusetts General Research Institute on a project aimed at understanding the effect of genetic variation on two small molecule splice modulators, which were being studied as potential therapeutics for Huntington's disease. Following graduation, she returned to the Pacific Northwest to be a research assistant in the laboratory of Manideep Chavali, Ph.D., in the Papé Family Pediatric Research Institute at Oregon Health and Science University. There she focused on elucidating the role of Stearoyl-CoA desaturase 1 (Scd1) in oligodendrocyte lineage development and central nervous system myelination, aiming to identify key molecular pathways that could be targeted for the treatment of neonatal hypoxic injury. Ms. Farnum is eager to continue advancing her work in degenerative disease research through the Johns Hopkins Pathobiology Program.



Taylor Godwin, DVM is a veterinarian from Southeast Texas. She received a B.S. degree in animal science from Texas A&M University in College Station and received

an M.S. degree in agriculture from Missouri State University in Springfield, where her research focused on estimating dry matter digestibility of forage fiber in equine diets. Dr. Godwin earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. During veterinary school, she was a T35 Summer Research Fellow in the laboratory of Karen Sfanos, Ph.D., in the Johns Hopkins Department of Pathology, investigating racial disparities in the tumor microenvironment of prostate cancer. Dr. Godwin is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology at Johns Hopkins, where she is pursuing residency training in veterinary anatomic pathology. Her professional interests include comparative pathology, digital pathology, and xenotransplantation—areas where she hopes to integrate her veterinary background with translational medicine.



Isabella Quintana, B.S. grew up in Gainesville, Florida, and received a bachelor's degree in biochemistry with a minor in history from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, in

2023. During college, Ms. Quintana was a member of the women's varsity soccer team and conducted research in the laboratory of Danielle Dube, Ph.D., studying the glycans that coat the surface of the pathogenic stomach bacterium *Helicobacter pylori*. After graduating, she was a predoctoral research associate at Adimab, a biotechnology company in Lebanon, New Hampshire. There, she worked on a yeast-based antibody discovery and engineering platform, seeding her interest in targeted therapeutic discovery and motivating her pursuit of a Ph.D.



Kaitlin Rickerl, DVM is a veterinarian from Southern California, currently working as a postdoctoral fellow in the Johns Hopkins Department of Molecular and

Comparative Pathobiology. She received her B.S. degree in zoology from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. During her undergraduate years, she worked on a variety of research projects, including herpetology in Southeast Asia and Latin America, neurodegenerative diseases, and addiction. Dr. Rickerl received a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of California, Davis. During veterinary school, she spent a summer investigating DNA damage caused by the methyl diazonium ion in vitro at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston. For her Ph.D., Dr. Rickerl is interested in translational research, particularly in regenerative medicine. She is excited to expand her knowledge on the cellular mechanisms of disease and immune regulation.



Meng Shi, B.S., M.S. grew up in Beijing, China, and received a B.S. degree in microbiology with honors and a B.A. degree in Germanics from the University

of Washington in Seattle. During his undergraduate studies, he conducted thesis research in the laboratory of Beth Traxler, Ph.D., in the Department of Microbiology, using transposon mutagenesis to investigate the structure–function relationship of the PilC adhesin protein involved in gonococcal infection. Mr. Shi also spent a semester studying abroad in Berlin, Germany, through the Department of German Studies. In 2023, he came to Johns Hopkins University to pursue an M.S.E. in Biomedical Engineering and joined the laboratory of Karen Sfanos, Ph.D., in the Johns Hopkins Department of Pathology. Mr. Shi’s master’s project focused on characterizing the morphology and histology of RWPE-1 prostate organoids under varying growth conditions, including androgen exposure, seeding density, and stromal cell co-culture, and evaluating their potential as an in vitro normal prostate epithelium model for studying factors that contribute to early prostate cancer development. In the Pathobiology Ph.D. Program, he hopes to deepen his understanding of human disease pathology and translational research.



Jacqueline Yang, B.S. was born in Beijing, China, and received her B.S. degree in biochemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles. In her first year, driven by her

interest in translational cancer research, she joined the laboratory of Hsian-Rong Tseng, Ph.D., and Yazhen Zhu, M.D., Ph.D., in the Department of Molecular and Medical Pharmacology, where she conducted research on the development of extracellular vesicle-based liquid biopsy methods for early cancer detection and treatment response monitoring. Her work spans various cancer types, including hepatocellular carcinoma, pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, epithelial ovarian cancer, and multiple myeloma. Ms. Yang’s experiences cemented her desire to pursue a Ph.D., leading her to join the Johns Hopkins Pathobiology Program, where she wishes to further explore mechanisms of tumor progression and develop clinically relevant diagnostic tools.

Have you moved or are in the process of moving? Have you changed your email address?

If so, please email HopkinsPathology@jhmi.edu to provide your new mailing and email addresses. We don’t want you to miss an issue of *PathWays* or communication from the Department of Pathology.

We respect your privacy and will never share your name with other organizations.



NEW GRANTS AND CONTRACTS AWARDED TO PATHOLOGY FACULTY

10/01/2024 - 9/30/2025

Faculty Member	Award Type	Agency	Dates	Total Funding
Albert, Marilyn	Subgrant	University of Washington	09/01/2024 - 08/31/2025	\$370,653
Albert, Marilyn	Grant	National Institute on Aging P30AG066507	06/15/2025 - 03/31/2030	\$22,326,909
Ali, Syed	Contract	Cg Oncology Inc	11/01/2024 - 10/31/2025	\$7,500
Ali, Syed	Contract	Cg Oncology Inc	10/28/2024 - 10/27/2025	\$37,500
Baras, Alexander	Contract	American Association for Cancer Research	10/30/2024 - 10/29/2027	\$152,550
Cihakova, Daniela	Grant	National Cancer Institute R01CA289729	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2029	\$2,770,125
Cihakova, Daniela	Grant	WW Smith Charitable Trust	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$125,000
Clarke, William	Contract	Roche Diagnostics International Ltd	06/01/2024 - 04/30/2026	\$595,578
Dai, Dao-Fu	Subcontract	Edgene Biomed	08/01/2024 - 07/31/2027	\$1,928,898
Eberhart, Charles	Subgrant	Public Health Institute	03/01/2024 - 02/28/2025	\$11,999
Eshleman, James	Grant	The Stringer Foundation	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2026	\$150,000
Gocke, Christopher	Contract	Genomics Organization for Academic Laboratories	03/21/2025 - 12/20/2025	\$50,000
Grabowski, Mary	Foreign Subaward	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases R21AI189301	08/11/2025 - 07/31/2027	\$63,755
Grabowski, Mary	Grant	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases R21AI189301	08/08/2025 - 07/31/2027	\$360,425
Ho, Cheng-Ying	Subcontract	University of Maryland Baltimore	05/01/2025 - 10/31/2025	\$23,261
Ho, Cheng-Ying	Subcontract	University of Maryland Baltimore	09/01/2024 - 04/30/2025	\$30,494
Hruban, Ralph	Grant	The Stringer Foundation	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2026	\$150,000
Hung, Chien-Fu	Grant	National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research R21DE034547	05/01/2025 - 04/30/2027	\$450,313
Irwin, Katherine	Grant	Karen Toffler Charitable Trust	09/01/2024 - 08/31/2025	\$30,000
Jaime, Camille	Grant	National Heart Lung and Blood Institute F31HL175896	08/01/2024 - 07/31/2026	\$97,948
James, Aaron	Grant	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs HT94252510326	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2027	\$621,011
James, Aaron	Grant	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs HT94252510216	05/15/2025 - 05/14/2029	\$2,382,063
James, Aaron	Subcontract	Nostopharma	01/01/2025 - 01/01/2026	\$224,166
Kiemen, Ashley	Subgrant	University of Ca San Francisco	09/19/2024 - 08/31/2025	\$61,172
Koliatsos, Vassilis	Contract	Applied Physics Laboratory	03/17/2025 - 08/15/2025	\$20,000
Krummey, Scott	Grant	The American Society for Histocompatibility and	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$40,000
Lotan, Tamara	Subgrant	University of Southern Ca	07/23/2024 - 06/30/2026	\$155,362
Maynard, Janielle	Grant	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs HT94252510693	08/01/2025 - 07/31/2028	\$776,831
Mostafa, Heba	Contract	Hologic Inc	12/17/2024 - 12/16/2026	\$256,515
Mostafa, Heba	Contract	Qiagen	8/15/2024 - 11/14/2025	\$128,683
Nauen, David	Subgrant	University of Ca San Diego	09/15/2024 - 07/31/2026	\$122,813
Parrish, Nicole	Subcontract	Pza Innovation	06/01/2025 - 05/31/2026	\$120,000
Parrish, Nicole	Contract	Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc	12/03/2024 - 01/30/2026	\$6,000
Rackow, Ashley	Contract	Truvian Sciences Inc	10/16/2024 - 06/30/2032	\$291,286
Rosenberg, Avi	Subcontract	NYU Langone Health	05/24/2024 - 05/23/2026	\$508,773
Rosenberg, Avi	Subgrant	Georgetown University	01/20/2026 - 11/30/2025	\$40,938
Rosenberg, Avi	Subgrant	University of Florida	09/01/2024 - 07/31/2025	\$50,700
Rubenstein, Michael	Grant	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs HT94252510415	06/01/2025 - 05/31/2027	\$459,932
Sfanos, Karen	Grant	National Cancer Institute R01CA288760	08/01/2025 - 07/31/2030	\$1,777,482
Simner, Patricia	Subgrant	Duke Clinical Research Institute	12/01/2024 - 06/30/2025	\$6,769
Thottappillil, Neelima	Grant	Technology Development Corporation	06/30/2024 - 06/29/2026	\$130,000
Tobian, Aaron	Contract	Grifols Therapeutics Inc	11/29/2024 - 11/28/2025	\$74,775
Troncoso, Juan	Subgrant	Baylor College of Medicine	02/17/2025 - 08/31/2025	\$30,560
Troncoso, Juan	Subgrant	Baylor College of Medicine	05/01/2025 - 04/30/2027	\$52,178

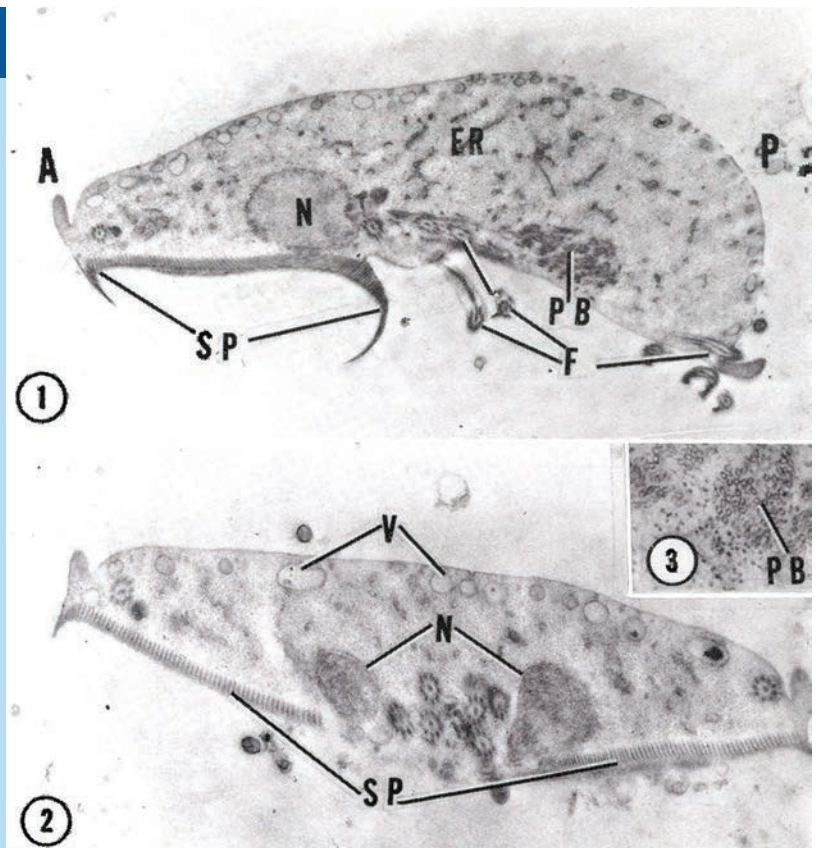
Faculty Member	Award Type	Agency	Dates	Total Funding
Welsh, Robin	Grant	American Heart Association	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2026	\$165,856
Wong, Philip	Grant	Alzheimers Drug Discovery Foundation	02/01/2025 - 01/31/2026	\$640,000
Wong, Philip	Contract	Eli Lilly and Co	05/16/2025 - 05/15/2027	\$265,000
Wood, Laura	Subgrant	Oregon Health Sciences University	09/01/2024 - 08/31/2029	\$1,579,692
Wu, Tzyy Choou	Grant	National Cancer Institute R01CA295696	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2029	\$3,206,552
Yates, Clayton	Subgrant	Emory University	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$25,387
Zhang, Hui	Subcontract	Leidos Inc	07/22/2025 - 09/12/2026	\$29,448
Zhang, Hui	Subcontract	Leidos Inc	02/25/2025 - 08/29/2025	\$32,634
Zhang, Hui	Subcontract	Leidos Inc	09/05/2024 - 07/31/2025	\$49,728
Zhang, Hui	Subcontract	Leidos Inc	06/25/2025 - 08/21/2026	\$52,836
Zhang, Hui	Subcontract	Leidos Inc	06/12/2025 - 08/31/2026	\$130,500
Zhang, Hui	Subcontract	Leidos Inc	07/17/2024 - 07/31/2025	\$208,857
Zhang, Hui	Subcontract	Leidos Inc	01/31/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$237,200
Zhang, Hui	Contract	Captis Diagnostics	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$7,620
Zhang, Hui	Contract	Captis Diagnostics	09/18/2024 - 09/17/2025	\$10,800
Zhang, Sean	Subgrant	University of Alabama at Birmingham	09/30/2023 - 09/29/2028	\$955,230
Zhang, Sean	Subgrant	Duke Clinical Research Institute	12/01/2024 - 11/30/2025	\$53,256
Zhang, Sean	Subgrant	Scanogen Inc	07/18/2024 - 06/30/2025	\$23,082
Zhang, Sean	Subgrant	Pearl Diagnostics Inc	03/27/2025 - 09/26/2026	\$150,833
Zhang, Sean	Contract	Bruker Daltonics	11/01/2024 - 11/30/2025	\$35,598
Zhang, Sean	Clinical Trial	Affinity Biosensors	04/22/2025 - 04/21/2026	\$48,000
Zhang, Sean	Contract	Fujifilm Healthcare Americas Corporation	04/01/2025 - 03/31/2026	\$54,291
Zhang, Zhen	Subgrant	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	09/01/2023 - 08/31/2027	\$100,000
TOTAL				\$46,133,317

Blast From The Past

ANSWER:

This is the original copper printing plate used in the offset lithography printing process in a paper published by Drs. John Yardley and Juan Takano in 1965 in the Bulletin of Johns Hopkins Hospital. The published image in the paper (right) shows *Giardia lamblia*.

JEJUNAL LESIONS IN PATIENTS WITH GIARDIASIS AND MALABSORPTION. AN ELECTRON MICROSCOPIC STUDY. Bulletin of Johns Hopkins Hospital 1965 Jun;116:413-29. PMID: 14300780



AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Serena Bagnasco, M.D., is the current president of the Renal Pathology Society for 2025.



Rachael Colangelo, MLS(ASCP) CM, a recent graduate of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Specialist in Blood Bank Technology/Transfusion Medicine Program, was awarded the 2025

AABB Future Leader Specialist in Blood Bank Scholarship Award. Her recognized project, titled “*Evaluation of Chloroquine Diphosphate Treatment to Remove Human Leukocyte Antigens from Red Blood Cells for Use in Antibody Identification—A Single Center Experience*,” highlights her innovative approach to advancing transfusion medicine.



Chris Dampier, M.D., received the 2025 Rubinstein Award for Best Paper on Neuro-oncology, presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of

Neuropathologists. This prestigious honor recognizes his outstanding contributions to the field of neuropathology.



Angelo De Marzo, M.D., Ph.D., in collaboration with Charles Bieberich, Ph.D., from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and Srinivasan

Yegnasubramanian, M.D., Ph.D., from Johns Hopkins, received a 2025 Patrick C. Walsh Prostate Cancer Foundation Research Award. This award recognizes their innovative work and commitment to advancing prostate cancer research.



PATHOLOGY RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM RANKS #1

Over 30,000 physicians recently participated in a Doximity survey to nominate residency training that offers “the best” clinical training in 28 different specialties. We are proud that once again this year (2025-2026) Johns Hopkins ranked as the #1 residency training program in Anatomic & Clinical Pathology!

Doximity also recently calculated a “program h-index” for each pathology residency program. This calculation was based on the number of citations accumulated by alumni publications over the past 20 years. Our pathology residency program ranked #1, with a program h-index of 213, reflecting the success our physician-scientist alumni have found in their careers.



Jonathan Dudley, M.D., received the Department of Defense Impact Award for a study aimed at pioneering ways to detect endometrial cancer using the Pap test. This prestigious award

recognizes research with the potential to significantly improve early cancer detection and patient outcomes.



Charles Eberhart, M.D., Ph.D., received the Best Presentation Award at the biannual International Society for Ocular Oncology meeting in Goa, India, on December 7, 2024.

He was recognized for his talk, “*MicroRNA Changes Can Promote Senescence in Optic Pathway Low-Grade Glioma.*”



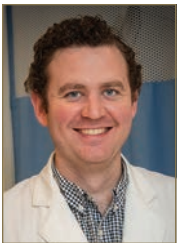
John Gross, M.D., was able to describe a novel soft tissue tumor known as “*Ossifying Spindled and Epithelioid Tumor*” (OSET), with most of the molecular work being conducted at

Johns Hopkins.



Ralph Hruban, M.D., was recognized by Research.com as one of the top 100 “Best Scientists in the World,” across all scientific disciplines, highlighting his remarkable citation

record. He is ranked #60 in the United States and #82 globally across all scientific disciplines.



Tait Huso, M.D., was elected to membership in the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society—one of the highest distinctions in academic medicine. This well-deserved

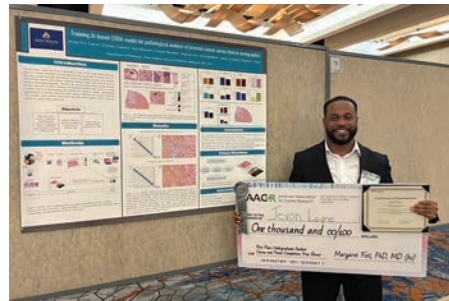
honor recognizes exceptional academic achievement and steadfast commitment to the core values of the medical profession. In addition, Dr. Huso received an Outstanding Abstract Award for trainees for his presentation at the Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies (AABB) annual meeting. In spring 2025, he presented an abstract at the Johns Hopkins Pathology Young Investigators’ Day and was selected for the Excellence in Clinical Research Award. He was selected to be the inaugural J. Brooks Jackson Fellow in the Division of Transfusion Medicine.



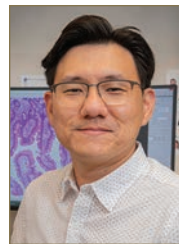
J. Brooks Jackson, M.D., MBA, former director of the Department of Pathology from 2002 to 2014, received the 2025 Distinguished Medical Alumnus Award from

the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in a ceremony held on May 30, 2025. This prestigious honor recognizes

exceptional alumni who embody the Johns Hopkins tradition of excellence through their remarkable professional achievements and enduring contributions to the field of medicine.



Jevon Layne, B.S., a research assistant in the laboratory of Clayton Yates, Ph.D., received first place in the poster competition at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Health Disparities Meeting.



Jae Lee, M.D., Ph.D., was elected to membership in the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society—one of the highest distinctions in academic medicine. This

well-deserved honor recognizes exceptional academic achievements and steadfast commitment to the core values of the medical profession.



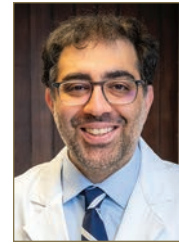
Zahra Maleki, M.D., received a Top Author Award (2014-2024) from the journal *Cancer Cytopathology* in recognition of her outstanding scholarly contributions over the

past decade.



Michael Rubenstein, Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Angelo De Marzo, M.D., Ph.D., received a Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical

Research Programs (CDMRP) FY24 Prostate Cancer Research Program Early Investigator Research Award.



Mohammad Salimian, M.D., received the Department of Pathology’s Resident Teaching Award from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in June

2025. This award is given by residents to recognize excellence in clinical teaching.



Sandra Ixchel Sanchez, M.D., under the mentorship of Ashley Cimino-Mathews, M.D., was honored with the 2024 Best Author Award by PathologyOutlines.

com for her outstanding article on breast schwannoma. This prestigious award recognizes authors who deliver exceptional submissions, featuring high-quality microscopic images and concise, insightful content.



Christopher VandenBussche, M.D., Ph.D., received the 2025 Nancy M. Nath Pathobiology Teaching Award. This award is given

by the department’s pathobiology students for exceptional contributions to graduate student training.



Eric Young, M.D., Ph.D., received both the Stowell-Orbison Certificate of Merit Award and the Pancreatobiliary Society Abstract Award at the 2025 United States

and Canadian Academy of Pathology meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. He was recognized for his work, “*Pathologic Evaluation of a Clinically Well-Characterized Series of Well-Differentiated Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors Surgically Resected From 904 Patients with 7882 Person-Years of Follow-up Supports the Sub-Division of Grade 2 Neoplasms Based on Ki-67 Labeling.*”

ALLEN VALENTINE PATHOLOGY EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

The 2025 Allen Valentine Pathology Symposium, held October 14–16, marked more than ten years of continuing education and collaboration within the Johns Hopkins Department of Pathology. This year’s hybrid event brought together 721 pathology staff and faculty across Hopkins affiliates in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Florida. The program offered a dynamic mix of returning and new speakers, exploring both the rich history and evolving future of laboratory medicine. Keynote speaker Ralph Hruban, M.D., reflected on the department’s enduring legacy which continues to guide Johns Hopkins Pathology today. Paula Mister, retired Education Coordinator for Clinical Microbiology, led “Weird Micro,” an interactive session of case studies involving older adult patients. Daniel Salmon, Ph.D., Director of the Institute for Vaccine Safety, discussed vaccine hesitancy and

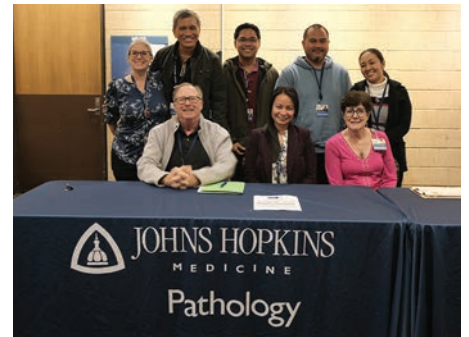


Charles Eberhart talks about eye pathology.



Keynote lecture from Dr. Ralph Hruban.

effective science communication. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the breadth of topics and depth of learning opportunities provided. The event was made possible by the yearlong efforts of the planning committee, co-organized by Lorraine Blagg and Mickayla Karikari. ■



Back row: Lorraine Blagg, Salvador Aydante, Randvyr Timtiman, Lester Rapanut, and Marvic Wilkens
Front row: Allen Valentine, Ruth Umali, and Tina Mancini

LAB NEWS

On March 24, 2025, the Medical Microbiology Laboratory at Johns Hopkins Hospital reached a major milestone in its journey toward innovation and efficiency. The laboratory officially went live with the third-generation BD Kiestra™ Total Laboratory Automation (TLA) system — a first-of-its-kind implementation at Johns Hopkins.

The new system integrates all steps of the bacterial culture process, from specimen processing to organism identification, into a fully automated and standardized workflow. Notably, this launch also marks the first use of artificial intelligence (AI) at Johns Hopkins to interpret digital culture images and assist with bacterial culture workups.

Since implementation, the laboratory has already seen measurable improvements. The average time to culture completion has decreased by 7.2 hours, thanks to streamlined workflows, continuous incubation, and AI-assisted digital



The Kiestra System

interpretation. Standardized robotics and digital imaging have also enhanced result quality, workflow consistency, and teaching capabilities.

“This project represents a transformative step forward in how we process and

interpret microbiology cultures,” said one member of the leadership team. “Through automation and artificial intelligence, we are not only improving turnaround times but also ensuring higher quality and standardization across all testing.” ■

RETIREMENTS

Karen C. Carroll

Karen C. Carroll, M.D., retired in January 2025.

Her leadership transformed the Microbiology Laboratory into a true system-wide operation, significantly expanding its test menu and strengthening its impact across the Johns Hopkins Health System. Dr. Carroll played a vital role in the laboratories' support of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Biocontainment Unit and was instrumental in shaping the institutional response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Her scholarly works, on the diagnosis and epidemiology of healthcare-associated infections and the development of novel diagnostics for bacteremia, resulted in more than 350 publications. She received the 2011 American Society for Microbiology Becton-Dickinson Award for Excellence in Clinical Research and served as co-editor-in-chief of the *Manual of Clinical Microbiology*, a foundational text in the field.

A passionate educator, Dr. Carroll mentored generations of residents, fellows, and medical students. Her exceptional commitment to teaching was recognized with five Johns Hopkins Pathology Residents Teaching Awards, as well as the Illinois Society for Microbiology Pasteur Award and the University of Utah American Medical Women's Association Inaugural Gender Equity Award. ■



Karen Carroll and Tom Quinn

Christopher Gocke

After nearly two decades of impactful contributions to Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Christopher Gocke, M.D., has retired, leaving behind a legacy that will continue to inspire future generations of physicians, scientists, and students.

Dr. Gocke joined Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 2005. Over the years, he served as Director of Hematology Molecular Diagnostics, Hematopathologist, and Program Director for the Molecular Genetic Pathology Fellowship. He rose to Director of the Division of Molecular Pathology, Deputy Director for Personalized Medicine in the Department of Pathology, and Co-Director of Johns Hopkins Genomics.

Throughout his tenure, Dr. Gocke's leadership was marked by a selfless dedication to his teams, consistently prioritizing their growth and well-being while advancing the fields of molecular pathology and hematopathology. His influence extended beyond the university through his innovative work with OncoMEDx, driving progress in precision oncology. ■



Ralph Hruban and Christopher Gocke



Rena Xian and Christopher Gocke

Norm Barker

After more than 40 years at the Johns Hopkins Professor Norman J. Barker, M.S., M.A., R.B.P., retired in February 2025, leaving behind an extraordinary legacy at the intersection of art and science. An award-winning science photographer, writer, and designer, Professor Barker's work has influenced generations of medical professionals and artists alike.

Serving as Director of the Pathology Photography and Graphic Arts Laboratory, he specialized in photomicroscopy and natural science photography. He provided tens of thousands of images for scores of major pathology textbooks. His collaborations spanned every department in the School of Medicine and extended beyond. His work has appeared in textbooks, journals, and museums worldwide, with photographs in the permanent collections of more than 40 museums, including the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, the George Eastman Museum, the American Museum of Natural History, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, and the Science Museum in London.

An accomplished author, Professor Barker has written or coauthored 11 books. As he often says, "Artists do not retire; they just keep making art," a philosophy he continues to embody in retirement. ■



"Artists do not retire; they just keep making art."

Norm Barker

CELEBRATING ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

Leela and Belur S. Bhagavan, M.D. Professorship in Pathology

On October 14, 2025, the Johns Hopkins Department of Pathology celebrated the dedication of the Leela and Belur S. Bhagavan, M.D. Professorship in Pathology and installed Ashley Cimino-Mathews, M.D., as the inaugural recipient. The ceremony was held in the William H. Welch Medical Library on the East Baltimore campus.

This endowed professorship honors the memory of Leela and Belur Bhagavan, whose lives exemplified a deep commitment to learning, compassion, and service. Supported by the generosity of 23 donors, the endowment commemorates the remarkable career of Dr. Belur Bhagavan, who served as Pathologist-in-Chief and Director of Laboratories at Sinai Hospital from 1985 to 1999.

Dr. Bhagavan made lasting contributions across gynecologic, genitourinary, gastrointestinal, and renal pathology, and

participated in the development of the implantable cardiac defibrillator (ICD)—a groundbreaking innovation that continues to save lives worldwide. He also maintained a lifelong connection to Johns Hopkins, serving as an associate professor in the Department of Pathology.

Dr. Ashley Cimino-Mathews has been a faculty member at Johns Hopkins since 2012. She completed her residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at Johns Hopkins in 2008, where she trained under Dr. Bhagavan. Currently, she is a professor of pathology and oncology and serves as Director of both the Breast Pathology Program and the Breast Fellowship Program. Internationally recognized for her diagnostic expertise and research, Dr. Cimino-Mathews has made major contributions to the field of breast cancer pathology and to advancing understanding of the tumor immune microenvironment.



Top: Ashley Cimino-Mathews
Bottom: Ralph Hruban, Ron Dnaiels, Janis Taube, Ashley Cimino-Mathews, Minni Bhagavan, Manu Bhagavan, and Theodore DeWeese

León Troper, M.D. Professorship in Computational Pathology

The Department celebrated the dedication of the León Troper, M.D. Professorship in Computational Pathology and installed Alexander S. Baras, M.D., Ph.D., as its inaugural recipient in a ceremony held on November 17, 2025, in the William H. Welch Medical Library on the Johns Hopkins East Baltimore campus.

This endowed professorship honors the legacy of León Troper, M.D., a renowned pathologist and professor who made significant contributions to medicine in Costa Rica. Over a career spanning three decades, Dr. Troper served as head of the Department of Pathology at Hospital Dr. Rafael Ángel Calderón Guardia and as a professor of general and special pathology at the University of Costa Rica School of Medicine in San José. The professorship was established by Dr. Troper's son and daughter-in-law, Dennis Troper and the late Susan Wojcicki.

Dr. Alex Baras came to Johns Hopkins for his residency training in anatomic pathology, followed by a fellowship in genitourinary pathology, and joined the faculty in 2014. He is internationally recognized for his pioneering work in applying data science to pathology. Dr. Baras currently serves as Director of the Division of Computational Pathology and Informatics and holds joint appointments in the Departments of Urology and Oncology. He is also a member of the Health Science Informatics graduate program faculty in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

The dedication ceremony, at which Dr. Baras received the professorship medallion, included remarks from Dennis Troper; Ralph Hruban, M.D.; Ronald J. Daniels, J.D., LL.M., President of Johns Hopkins University; and Theodore L. DeWeese, M.D., Dean and Chief Executive Officer of Johns Hopkins Medicine.



Top: Nathalie Sabah, Ronald Troper, Denis Troper, Vivian Troper, and Gabriel Filloy
Bottom: Alex Baras

2025 ENDOWED LECTURES

The Tenth Fred and Janet Sanfilippo Visiting Professor Lecture

Claire Pomeroy, M.D., M.B.A., President and CEO of the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, gave the tenth Fred and Janet Sanfilippo Visiting Professor Lecture on April 14, 2025. Her talk was entitled “Medical Research Today: the Power, the Peril and the Promise.”



Waqar Arif, M.D., Ph.D., Fatima Zaman, M.B.B.S., M.P.H., M.M.Sc., Fred Sanfilippo, M.D., Ph.D., former Director of the Department of Pathology; Claire Pomeroy, M.D., M.B.A., 2025 Sanfilippo Lecturer; Janet Sanfilippo, Shannon Murphy, Ph.D., Annie Wu, M.D., Ph.D.

Twelfth Joseph C. Eggleston, M.D. Visiting Professor Lecture in Surgical Pathology

Justin A. Bishop, M.D., the Jane B. and Edwin P. Jenevein, M.D. Chair in Pathology and Chief of Anatomic Pathology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and alumnus of the Johns Hopkins Department of Pathology, gave the Twelfth Joseph C. Eggleston, M.D. Visiting Professor Lecture in Surgical Pathology on October 13, 2025. His talk was entitled “Salivary Gland Tumor Pathology: New Entities and Concepts.”



2025 Eggleston Lecturer, Justin A. Bishop, M.D. and Director of Surgical Pathology, Lisa Rooper, M.D.

Fourth Paul M. Ness, M.D. Visiting Professor Lecture in Transfusion Medicine

Harvey J. Alter, M.D., MACP, Distinguished NIH Scientist Emeritus from the Department of Transfusion Medicine at the National Institutes of Health, gave the fourth Paul M. Ness, M.D. Visiting Professor Lecture in Transfusion Medicine on March 3, 2025. His talk was entitled “Hepatitis C: The End of the Beginning and Possibly, The Beginning of the End.”



Ralph Hruban, M.D., Paul M. Ness, M.D., former Director of the Division of Transfusion Medicine; Harvey J. Alter, M.D., MACP, the 2025 Ness Lecturer; and Aaron A. Tobian, M.D., Ph.D., Director of the Division of Transfusion Medicine

NEW LEADERS IN PATHOLOGY

Brandon Ellis, M.B.A. Interim Chief Administrative Officer



Brandon Ellis has graciously agreed to serve as the interim Chief Administrative Officer for the Department, effective September 1st. In this role, Brandon

collaborates with leaders across the Johns Hopkins Health System and School of Medicine to maintain day-to-day operations while also advancing our strategic and research priorities.

Many of you know Brandon for his exceptional leadership within the Division of Medical Microbiology, where he has served for the past 18 years. Throughout his career, Brandon has held progressive leadership roles within the Microbiology Laboratory. Notable achievements during this time include assisting with the creation of a federally designated bio-containment unit in response to Ebola Virus and other highly communicable infections, a coordinated health system and regional response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and, most recently, implementing BD Kiestra Total Laboratory Automation with digital imaging and artificial intelligence applications for bacteriology cultures.

Along with his clinical microbiology and leadership responsibilities, Brandon consistently supports the Johns Hopkins tripartite mission through research, including 23 abstracts and 10 peer-reviewed publications, and teaching, including one authored textbook chapter for diagnostic microbiology. In 2009, he received the Joan Valentine Award for Excellence in JHH Microbiology. In 2021, Brandon received the JHH LEADers Award and the American Society for Microbiology Scherago-Rubin Award for Clinical Microbiology – a national recognition for his support of science globally. Brandon holds an undergraduate degree in Medical Technology from the University of Delaware and a Master's in Business Administration from Loyola University.

Bill Clarke, Ph.D. Director of the Division of Clinical Chemistry



Bill Clarke, PhD, MBA, DABCC is our new Director of the Division of Clinical Chemistry, replacing Dr. Daniel Chan as he stepped back from this leadership role on June 30 after nearly

50 years of service. Dr. Clarke received his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln in 2000, followed by a post-doctoral fellowship in Clinical Chemistry at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, ending in 2002. In addition, he received an MBA focused on medical services management from the Carey School of Business at Johns Hopkins in 2007. Following his Clinical Chemistry Fellowship, he remained at Johns Hopkins where he is a Professor in the Department of Pathology. During his time at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Clarke has achieved national and international recognition for his exceptional work in the areas of toxicology, point-of-care testing, and clinical mass spectrometry.

Dr. Clarke has published over 180 peer-reviewed manuscripts or book chapters, is the Co-Editor of the textbook *Contemporary Practice in Clinical Chemistry*, was one of the founding Co-Editors-in-Chief for *Practical Laboratory Medicine* and is currently an Editor-in-Chief of *Clinica Chimica Acta*. He is currently Co-Director of the Clinical Chemistry Fellowship Program, the Deputy Director for Quality and Regulatory Affairs, and serves as a Director of both Point-of-Care Testing and Clinical Toxicology for the hospital.

We are excited to welcome Bill to this new role, and also to thank Dr. Chan for all of his years of service and leadership in our Department.

Evan Bloch, M.B.CH.B, M.S. Deputy Director for Faculty Development



Dr. Evan Bloch took over as our new Deputy Director of Faculty Development on July 1st.

Evan is originally from South Africa, where he completed medical school (University of Cape Town) and subsequent clinical training. Following a combined residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology (Tufts Medical Center), post-graduate fellowship in Transfusion Medicine (University of California San Francisco-UCSF) and Masters in Global Health (UCSF) he continued research at Blood Systems (now Vitalant) Research Institute, while continuing to teach at UCSF in Laboratory Medicine. He joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins University (JHU) School of Medicine in 2015.

Evan is a Professor of Pathology and serves as the Associate Director of Transfusion Medicine, Medical Director of the Apheresis Service and Director of the post-graduate Fellowship in Transfusion Medicine; he also holds a joint appointment in International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He has long been invested in trainee mentorship and faculty development.

His medical training and clinical practice in South Africa spurred an interest in blood transfusion safety in resource-constrained settings. To this end, he has been actively involved in research, education and operational outreach related to advancement of global blood transfusion safety. Dr. Bloch has a specific interest in the interplay between blood transfusion and infectious diseases, particularly in low and low-middle income countries where transfusion transmitted infection remains a metric of suboptimal policies and practices.

As Evan assumes this role, we thank Daniela Čiháková for her exemplary leadership as the former Deputy Director of Faculty; Daniela is now the Deputy Director of Research. Thank you Daniela!

**Daniela Čiháková, MD, PhD,
D(ABMLI)
Deputy Director for Research**



Dr. Čiháková received her M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, with post-graduate clinical training in Pediatrics. She started

her postdoctoral fellowship at the Johns Hopkins University's School of Medicine in 2002 and became a faculty member in 2008. Dr. Čiháková is currently a Professor in the Division of Immunology. She is certified in Medical Laboratory Immunology by the American Board of Medical Laboratory Immunology, and works as an Associate Director of Diagnostic Immunology.

For the past 3 years, Dr. Čiháková has been a Deputy Director for Faculty Development. In that role, she has been leading a robust and individualized mentoring program supporting junior faculty in the Department of Pathology. She has also led the departmental associate professor promotional committee and has been serving as a Chair of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC). The RAC meets with every newly hired faculty in the first year of their tenure track position in the Department of Pathology. The RAC advises them on their research progress, grant plans, collaborations, and future directions for their research. The RAC also helps with future research directions for struggling faculty and reviews future research prospects for candidates for Research Associate positions and H1B visa candidates. Other RAC activities include reviewing applications for Departmental grants including Mabel Smith, Sanfilippo, Latta, and Grover Hutchins awards. During Dr. Čiháková's tenure, the RAC had some 60 review meetings. Dr. Čiháková has innovated the way this committee has been operating. Among

other things, she installed detailed written summaries and a process of follow up with one-on-one meetings to go over the RAC recommendations.

Dr. Čiháková has a strong record of grant funding, including 3 NIH RO1 grants and 10 American Heart Association grants as well as many other Foundation grants as a PI (a total of 34 grants as PI or co-investigator in the last 17 years). She has published her research in high impact journals such as *Journal of Experimental Medicine*, *Circulation Research*, *Cell Reports*, and *American Journal of Pathology* (over 100 publications in total).

Dr. Čiháková has also been a member of the Professorial Promotions Committee, the University Immunology Planning Committee, and the Pathology resident selection committee.

As Deputy Director for Research, Dr. Čiháková will build on Dr. Tamara Lotan's efforts to support the Department of Pathology's faculty and trainees in their ability to carry out a robust and impactful research. With changes to the Federal Government funding, the Pathology Department's scientific community—and all scientists supported by federal grants—have entered an uncharted territory. Our pathology faculty will have to meet unprecedented new challenges in coming months and years. Dr. Čiháková is committed to supporting our excellence in research, promoting rigorous, high-quality research that is competitive at national and international levels. She will continue leading the RAC and continue to provide structured guidance to faculty and their research plans. She will also start a new grant writing group for junior faculty and help identify new funding opportunities. In addition, she will support our faculty interdisciplinary collaborations.

**Calixto-Hope Lucas Jr., M.D.
Associate Program Director for
Anatomic Pathology Residency
Training.**



Dr. Calixto-Hope ("CJ") Lucas is the Associate Program Director for Anatomic Pathology Residency Training. Dr. Lucas earned his medical degree and completed anatomic pathology

residency and neuropathology fellowship training at the University of California, San Francisco, and comes to this position with valuable leadership experience and insights into resident education and training. He served as chief resident, working closely with a large cohort of trainees in a subspecialty-driven training program and also completed coursework on health professions education as part of a formal graduate medical education curriculum. He currently directs the neoplasia course for medical students, the surgical neuropathology rotation for pathology trainees, and also serves as a lecturer for various residency and graduate program didactic series, demonstrating his commitment to teaching and curriculum development. Outside of his education and mentorship activities, Dr. Lucas is the Clinical Neuropathology Service Director and collaborates on many multidisciplinary neuro-oncology research programs across Johns Hopkins.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 21-26, 2026

**United States and Canadian Academy
of Pathology**

115th Annual Meeting
Henry B. González Convention Center
San Antonio, Texas

May 13, 2026

**2026 Pathology Young Investigators'
Day**

Turner Auditorium
The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, Maryland
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

June 10, 2026

Pathology Awards Presentation

Turner Auditorium
The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, Maryland
5:30 p.m.

October 6-8, 2026

Allen Valentine Symposium

Turner Auditorium
The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, Maryland

**2025 Pathology
Young Investigators' Day Awardees**

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TOP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Megan Hess Check, B.S. - Basic Research
Kin Israel Notarte, M.D., M.S. - Clinical Research
Ajay Vaghasia, B.S. - Translational Research

FOR EXCELLENCE IN BASIC RESEARCH

Lance Ming-Hung Hu, M.D., Ph.D.
Riley Leathem, B.S.
Dongseok Park, Ph.D.
Jesus Contreras Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Ina Sulkaj, Ph.D.
Neelima Thottappillil, Ph.D.
Jhen-Wei Wu, Ph.D.

EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

Samuel Harvey, M.D., Ph.D.
Tait Huso, M.D.
Kin Israel Notarte, M.D., M.S.
Tanvi Verma, M.D.
Annie Wu, M.D., Ph.D.

FOR EXCELLENCE IN TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

Alexis Bennett, Ph.D.
Stephen Brown, B.S.
Jun (Tony) Choe, B.S.
Angelica Cruz Lebrón, Ph.D.
Tasnim Syakirah Faiez, M.S.
Reetika Rajkumar Gaikwad, M.S.
Jae W. Lee, M.D., Ph.D.
Vahinipriya Manoharan, Ph.D.
Selina Shiqing K. Teh, Ph.D.
Bailey West, B.S.