PERF UPDATE

As a result of the recent sale of the PERF Meyran Avenue Building, the Administrative/Accounting Office will be relocated to Room S-703 Scaife Hall, effective October 27, 1997. The PERF Office will be closed on Thursday, October 23 and Friday, October 24, 1997 for moving/office set-up. Please note: Checks will NOT be processed the week of October 20th due to the move from the Meyran site to the Scaife site.

The PERF Administrative Office telephone numbers will remain the same after the move:

- General Calls 648-1260
- Susan DiGeronimo, Controller, 648-1926
- The Fax will remain the same 624-0614
- New Email Addresses:
  - Dr. Anna Roman-Koller: anrmk@pop.pitt.edu
  - Ms. Susan DiGeronimo: sdgm@pop.pitt.edu

Effective October 1, 1997, we have turned our billing operation over to MEDAPHIS which is the company who we have been utilizing on a turn-key basis for the past 8-9 years. Our Department will eventually cycle into the new UPP Epic system sometime late next year. We would like to express our gratitude to our billing staff members who will be permanently relocated in new positions to the University of Pittsburgh Physicians Management Company on the 9th floor of Forbes Tower, effective October 13, 1997:

- Mrs. Peggy Colosimo (11 years)
- Mr. Daniel Kraly (7 years)
- Mrs. Kim Sculli (11 years)
- Mrs. Lorraine Beu (4 years)
- Ms. Brigid Caffrey (3 years)

PERF will maintain our coding personnel, Ms. Jeannie Hosni and Ms. Linda Kraly until the transition onto the new EPIC system. They will move along with me to the new PERF office in Scaife Hall.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the Department of Pathology, especially all PERF members, for your patience during my first months here at PERF. We are still in transition with staff and facilities; however, I anticipate everything will be in order by mid-November. Thank you for the opportunity to work with you during these "dynamic" times. Susan DiGeronimo, M.B.A., Controller, PERF

THE ROBERT E. LEE, M.D. AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ANATOMIC PATHOLOGY

The Robert E. Lee, M.D. Award for Excellence in Anatomic Pathology has been established in the Department for third or fourth year medical students who have rotated in an Anatomic Pathology Laboratory (surgical or autopsy pathology) and has shown a commitment to learning the basic skills of an anatomic pathologist. This includes the performance of autopsies and frozen sections, processing of surgical specimens, microscopic interpretation, and the correlation of these observations with clinically noted manifestations of disease. A prize of $1,000 will be awarded to the pathologist as an educator of clinicians, colleagues in Pathology and medical students - a role that Robert E. Lee, M.D. has played in the Department of Pathology for over 30 years.

A Standing Committee of pathologists heavily involved in medical student education and Dr. Samuel Yousem, as chair of the committee, will present nominees to the general pathology staff and solicit their input regarding the individuals nominated. The committee will vote on the awardee and the choice will be determined by a simple majority. In the event of a tie, the awardee will share the prize, although each will receive the full specified monetary value of the award. The prize will be awarded on "Senior Awards Day."

We are proud to announce the establishment of this award in honor of Dr. Robert E. Lee.
DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

The Department of Pathology will observe the Thanksgiving Holiday and be closed on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28. This also includes the PERF Administrative Offices.

The Christmas Holiday Administrative Office schedule will be as follows: December 24-January 1, 1998 all offices will be closed, however, a skeleton crew will be in on December 29 & 30 from 10:00 until 3:00 p.m.

Both Glassware Labs (4th floor BST and 7th floor Scaife Hall) will be open Monday, December 29 from 10:00 until 3:00 p.m.

The Photography Lab will be closed throughout the Christmas Holiday break.

A NOTE FROM PAYROLL...

Due to the holidays in November and December, the pay dates for these months have been changed as follows:

**November 26 & December 12**

Student checks will be dated December 12. Staff and faculty checks will be postdated December 31.

Helen Piccola, our payroll administrator, has accepted a new position in the Math Department. Until a replacement is hired, please direct all payroll inquiries to Monica Tietsworth. Good luck Helen!

RESIDENCY PROGRAM UPDATE

It is getting to be "interview time" for the residency program. We are combining our program at Shadyside Hospital and interviewing for seven positions. Our interview dates are October 24, December 5 and 12, 1997 and January 9 and 16, 1998. Valeri Lyons has designed a logo for the T-shirts which are being given to those who participate in the recruitment process.

Our Department will be hosting several evening receptions as part of our residency recruitment for the 1998-99 academic year. The purpose of these events is to bring our residency candidates into contact with the faculty, giving them a positive picture of life and work in the Department of Pathology. It is also an opportunity for you to be a part of the annual recruitment of top-level applicants, as we attempt to match our program slots with their interests and qualifications. We ask you to come as a representative not only of the Department, but of your particular Division and ask you to encourage other members of your Division to attend as well. It is important that our candidates have the opportunity to meet those faculty who may be their potential mentors and colleagues, and we cannot do that without your help.

If you have any questions regarding the reception or the residency program in general, please phone Diana Winters at 648-6873. Thank you again for your participation in this annual process.

RESIDENT RECRUITMENT DATES:
(ALL HELD IN ROOM 1104 UPMC CONFERENCE CENTER, 11TH FLOOR SCAIFE)

- Friday, October 24 at 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, December 5 at 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, December 12 at 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, January 9, 1998 at 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, January 16, 1998 at 5:00 p.m.

Congratulations to Kevin Horn, M.D. for presenting his work at the Clinical Chemistry to ASCP/CAP Pathology Resident competition in Philadelphia on September 22. He was one of six finalists. His presentation was titled: "Biomarkers of Liver Regeneration Allow Early Prediction of Recovery Following Acute Hepatic Necrosis."

ON THE PERSONAL SIDE...

Congratulations to two of our residents -- Linda Dallasta delivered a baby girl weighing 7 lb. 4 oz on August 17, Aislinn (Gaelic). On the same day, 13 minutes earlier, Evan Baker's wife (Evan is now a fellow at Magee in Cytopathology) delivered Lauren Ashley weighing 6 lb. 9 oz. Parents and babies are doing fine! Diana Winters, Residency Coordinator

GRADUATE PROGRAM UPDATE

On September 15, 1997, the Pathology Department hosted a program presentation for the first-year graduate students. Fifteen new graduate students had lunch with faculty and lab personnel in the Department. Dr. Michalopoulos gave the welcoming and an overview. Drs. Locker, Achim, Strom, Getzenberg and Kant spoke about their particular area of research. Some of the labs displayed posters and shared information with the new students about their research. Graduate Program registration deadline date is: December 5, 1997. Joseph Locker, M.D., Ph.D., and Cindy Keesecker
PLANNING AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

The following individuals have been elected to the Departmental Planning and Budget Committee for a two-year term beginning January 1, 1998:

Sheldon Bastacky, M.D.
John Anhalt, M.D., Ph.D.

Additionally, the School of Medicine's Planning and Budget Committee has elected Clayton Wiley, M.D., Ph.D. and will serve a two-year term beginning January 1, 1998. The staff representative from our Department will be Monica Tietsworth.

GRANT UPDATE

The Charlotte Geyer Foundation supports research into the cause, prevention and treatment of cancer. The Foundation annually makes several awards in amounts up to one-hundred thousand dollars each, including overhead. The Foundation will consider recent proposals that were submitted to the National Institutes of Health and assigned to the National Cancer Institute; received a peer-review ranking in the ten percentiles above the NCI payline; and did not receive funding. The purpose of Foundation awards is to provide one year's funding to exceptional proposals to give investigators the opportunity of advancing and improving projects to the point where they are able to successfully compete for an RO1 or other award.

RESEARCHERS: On August 12 you should have received the General Policies and Procedures for the Office of Research, Health Sciences. These policies were instituted for the Quality Assurance Program for clinical investigations, their office will be conducting more audits in the future. If you did not receive the information, please contact Tracy Crawford at 648-9474. Also, if you have not given Tracy a copy of your University ID, please send her a copy. The ID number is needed for the Stock 136 Forms.

NIH Grant Due Dates:

All AIDS related grants - January 2
All new grants - February 1
Institutional National Research Service Awards - January 10

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PHYSICIAN'S UPDATE (UPP)

The Departments of Orthopaedic and Neurosurgery successfully completed the conversion onto the new EPIC billing, registration and scheduling system. The Department of Radiology has been scheduled next in the que and will go "live" onto the system on November 1. Pathology has been "tentatively" scheduled for the July-September, 1998 cycle.

The transfer for faculty benefits and payroll from PERF to UPP has been delayed until July 1, 1997. As information becomes more readily available, it will be transmitted to the departments. Once the benefits program has been finalized, there will be open forum faculty meetings scheduled throughout the School of Medicine and with each Department.

The Electronic Medical Record Department has been recently formed within UPP and will be headed by John Dillon, Vice President for Clinical Support Services. EpicCare is a computer-based patient-care management system which will be installed in physician offices and will ultimately replace the paper medical record. The system allows providers the opportunity to electronically retrieve a patient's medical record and review historical data. The system is tentatively scheduled to be piloted in the Orthopaedics Department, the USO office in McMurray, and with UPP physicians at University Center and Westmoreland.

UNITED WAY UPDATE

The University's United Way campaign kicked-off on October 16, 1997. Watch the mail for details about your participation! Dr. Klionsky and Cindy Keesecker are coordinating the campaign for our Department. If you have any questions, please call Cindy at x89550.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION MEDICAL TREATMENT

The University has put together material regarding Workers' Compensation: Medical Treatment. Each division is being asked to post a "Notice to Employee." It is required by law to post the notice. An "Employee Acknowledgement" will be distributed to all employees for their information. Supervisors should pay special attention to the procedure the University has established. If you have any questions, please call Chris at 648-1040.
DIVISION OF PATHOLOGY INFORMATICS

The Second Annual Conference on Anatomic Pathology Informatics, Imaging and the Internet was held on October 16-18, 1997, at the Marriott Hotel City Center in Downtown Pittsburgh. All conference info can be accessed from the web site at URL: http://www.pathology.pitt.edu/apiii97

This year's conference focused on four areas:

Workshops were presented on developing World Wide Web sites for your pathology practice, imaging in pathology practice, increasing consults via the World Wide Web, Transplant Pathology Internet Services and the National Library of Medicine UMLS indexing, and an introductory and advanced course in Pathology Informatics.

Other Points of Interest included: Electronic Poster Session where leading pathology web sites and new methodologies being developed to advance the field of Informatics were presented on computers via the Worldwide Web 30+ Laboratory Information System and Leading-edge Technology Exhibitors who presented their products and services during special times of the conference. There was a special dinner and roundtable, moderated by Dr. Becich with six CEO's from leading corporations who discussed the future of Anatomic Pathology Laboratory Information Systems. Michael Becich, M.D., Ph.D. & Ron Yori

City Earned Income Tax Deductions for Faculty Travel

The University of Pittsburgh has recently reached an agreement with the City of Pittsburgh that will facilitate faculty tax deductions from the City's earned income tax for expenses incurred in attending out-of-town seminars or engaging in other professionally related travel. The City imposes an earned income tax on its residents, from which taxpayers may deduct unreimbursed business expenses incurred while out of town, if they are incurred "as a condition of employment and required by the employer." While the City has in the past routinely denied the deduction for faculty members attending conferences, they have now agreed to honor deductions for University of Pittsburgh faculty members' travel as long as the faculty member submits a written statement signed and dated by the dean of the school, stating the following:

1. attendance at the seminar or travel for other University purposes was necessary for the faculty member to perform his/her professional responsibilities satisfactorily;

2. the University would have paid for the professor to attend the seminar had sufficient departmental or school funds been available; and

3. sufficient departmental or school funds were not available.

The City retains the usual right to review whether any such expenditures are reasonable. Please contact the Dean's office at 648-8975 for further info.

FACULTY AND STAFF UPDATE

John L. Abernethy, Jr., M.D., Ph.D. has joined our Department as an Associate Professor of Pathology with a secondary appointment in Dermatology effective November 1. Dr. Abernethy comes to us from the University of South Alabama where he was the Director of Dermatopathology. He will have an office in the Dermatology Department and you will be able to contact him there or in Surgical Pathology at Montefiore. We welcome Dr. Abernethy!

Michael A. Becich, M.D., Ph. D. appointed Interim Director of Oncology Informatics, UPCI; "The Impact of New Technologies on the Future of Pathology Informatics" Clinical Pathology Grand Round, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 9/10/97; "Introduction to Informatics" Clinical Pathology Grand Round, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 8/08/97; "The Role of Pathology in Supporting the Electronic Health Record" Information Technology: The Keystone of Integrated Health Care, A Symposium Honoring Donald A.B. Lindberg, MD; Pittsburgh, PA 6/25/97; "Content Based Retrieval Strategies for Pathology Image Databases" University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA 6/23/97; "Telepathology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center" Telemedicine 2000 Conference and Exhibition, Chicago, IL 6/11-13/97; "The Impact of Informatics on the Practice of Pathology" Introductory Course on Pathology Informatics, University of Pittsburgh, School of Information Science, Pittsburgh, PA 6/6/97; "A Practical
Approach to Image Storage and Management in Anatomic Pathology" Automated Information Management in the Clinical Laboratory Conference, Ann Arbor, MI 5/28-30/97; "Creating Telepathology and Continuing Medical Education: What are the Medicolegal Issues?" Texas Society of Pathology, Austin, TX 5/03/97; "Imaging in Anatomic Pathology" University of Colorado, Denver, CO 4/17/97.

Dr. Martha Clarke presented a microscopic tutorial entitled "Interesting Cases in Thyroid Pathology" at the fall ASCP meeting in Philadelphia, September 22, 1997. Dr. Clarke will be leaving the Department effective October 31. She has accepted a position at St. Clair Hospital. She will remain involved at the Medical School as a Clinical Assistant Professor. Congratulations on your new position and best of luck with future pursuits!

Kelly Jordan, Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Dr. Robert Bowser, has received funding for two years for her postdoctoral fellowship application from the NIH. Congratulations Kelly!

Bernard Klionsky, M.D. has moved his office to NW653 MUH and his telephone number is 648-6011.

Mesu's Kabwa Luabeya, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Neurology from the University of Kinshasa in Zaire (Democratic Republic of Congo) is here for a twelve-month sabbatical to collaborate with Dr. Clayton Wiley on a research project entitled "Immune responsiveness in the pathogenesis of HIV encephalitis." Dr. Luabeya's specialty is in the field of neuro-AIDS, especially HIV-encephalitis.

Michael A. Nalesnik, M.D., chaired the committee on diagnosis of posttransplant lymphoproliferative disorders at the International Consensus Meeting on Epstein-Barr Virus Post-Transplant Lymphoproliferative Disorders, sponsored by the Mayo Clinic on May 10, 1997, Chicago, IL. Dr. Nalesnik also appeared on the CBS television show "Ordinary Extraordinary", where he discussed the use of cellular immunotherapy to treat a posttransplant lymphoma which arose in a heart transplant patient.

George K. Michalopoulos, M.D., Ph.D. gave a seminar at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions on June 12 entitled "HGF, hepatocyte growth and differentiation," and gave a seminar at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Morgantown, WV on September 24 entitled "Growth Factors and the Liver."

Michael W. Riben, M.D. from Albany Medical Center in Albany, NY has been designated a recipient of the 1997-98 CAP Foundation Training in Technology Award and will be spending a three month rotation in the Division of Pathology Informatics during Winter semester.

Steven Swerdlow, M.D., coordinated the 4th Society for Hematopathology slide Workshop on Extranodal Hematopoietic/Lymphoid Disorders, jointly sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh on September 11-14, 1997. Originally planned for 100 registrants, 147 hematopathologists from 12 different countries participated in the workshop. Work has already begun on a Pathology Patterns issue that will be devoted to this topic and the workshop. Dr. Swerdlow also served as a moderator, discussion leader and presented at the Regional Hematopathology Program in Nashville, TN on June 7. The title of his presentation was "HHV8+ primary effusion lymphoma and Castleman's disease-like lesion in an HIV elderly male."

PATHOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

Robert H. Getzenberg, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
"Cancer Specific Nuclear Matrix Proteins"
Wednesday, October 29, 1997
4:00 p.m., 618 Scaife Hall

Tsung-Teh Wu, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Pathology
Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions
Baltimore, MD
"Genetic Alterations in Barrett Esophagus and Adenocarcinomas of the Esophagus and Esophagogastric Region"
Monday, November 3, 1997
12:00 noon, 618 Scaife Hall

David H. Walker, M.D.
Visiting Totten Professor, Professor and Chairman
University of Texas Medical Branch
Galveston, TX
"Emerging Infectious Diseases: The Paradigm of Ehrlichioses and Bartonelloses"
Wednesday, November 5, 1997
4:00 p.m., Lecture Room 5 Scaife Hall
Pedram Argani, M.D.
Department of Pathology
Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions
Baltimore, MD
"Olfactory Neuroblastoma: Immunohistochemical and Molecular Analysis"
Monday, November 17, 1997
12:00 noon, 618 Scaife Hall

Andriana Zeevi, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pathology
Department of Pathology
"Two Types of CMV-Specific T Cell Memory; Characterization and Clinical Significance in Lung Transplant Recipients"
Wednesday, December 10, 1997
4:00 p.m., 618 Scaife Hall

Lance A. Liotta, M.D., Ph.D.
Visiting Menen Professor, Chief, Laboratory of Pathology and Chief, Tumor Invasion and Metastasis Section, NIH
Title and room to be announced
Wednesday, January 21, 1998, 4:00 p.m.

Pittsburgh Pathology Society Educational Program 1997/1998

January 28, 1998 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Slide seminar on Case Presentations by the residents and fellows of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

February 25, 1998 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Slide seminar case by Stan Geyer, M.D., and staff from Western Pennsylvania Hospital 6:15 - 7:30 p.m. "Advances in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine by Ronald Workman, M.D., Chairman, St. Francis Hospital.

March 25, 1998 5:30-6:15 p.m. Slide seminar case presentations by the Allegheny General Hospital, Allegheny University of Health Sciences, Jan Silverman, M.D., and staff. 6:15-7:00 p.m. "The Surgical Pathologists' Approach to Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy" by Jan Silverman, M.D., Chairman, Allegheny General Hospital, Allegheny University of the Health Sciences.

April 29, 1998 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Slide seminar veterinary pathology by Ed Klein, VMB, Associate Director of Laboratory Animal Services, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Robert Garman, DVM Consultants in Veterinary Pathology. 6:15-7:00 p.m. "Bronchioloalveolar Carcinoma: Human and Animal Forms of the Disease" by Samuel A. Yousem, M.D.

May 20 1998 5:30 -6:15 p.m. Slide seminar, cases from the hematopathology division of the UPMC, Steve Swerdlow, M.D. and staff. 6:15 - 7:00 p.m. "Molecular Approach to Leukemia and Lymphoma" by Jeff Cossman, M.D. Georgetown (tentative).

All meetings are held at the Allegheny County Medical Society, 713 Ridge Avenue (Northside), Pittsburgh, PA unless otherwise specified.

PUBLICATIONS


NEXT PATHOLOGY QUARTERLY DEADLINE DATE: JANUARY 15 - EMAIL INFO TO SZALK@pop.pitt.edu