DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The fall of Academic Year 1998-99 finds the Department of Pathology in a position of strength and balance. Several positive developments have occurred which I would like to address. All the developments contain good news and provide reassurance for the academic future of the Department of Pathology.

1. Service Agreements with Multiple Hospitals. Following the expansion of the UPMC Network, the Department has continued to be at the vanguard of establishing relations with the new affiliated institutions. Currently, we have more than ten contracts already established and we are in the process of constructing several others. These contracts allow us to bring in faculty from the affiliated hospitals into the academic structure of the Department and they enhance the flexibility of the Department to cope with service obligations and academic needs. Emerging is a new image of the Department which is anchored in its traditional academic roots and yet connected with many sites in Western Pennsylvania. The department is expanding to become truly an intellectual resource for all of the area Pathologists.

2. Recruitment of New Faculty. Several new faculty were recruited as of July 1, including Dr. Tim Oury (from Duke University), Dr. Xia Ming Yin (Washington University), Dr. Charleen Chu (Duke University), Dr. Karen Weck (Washington University), Dr. Jim Harrison (Tulane University). We were also happy to have had Dr. Sydney Finkelstein return to our department. We are presently recruiting to replace faculty positions in Transplantation Pathology and in Gynecologic Pathology at Magee-Womens Hospital. Ongoing recruitment for a new Medical Director of Central Laboratories is also in progress.

3. Renovation of space. Molecular diagnostics in Scaife Hall (7th floor) will be renovated to become modern to better serve the hospital’s needs. On the same floor, space will be renovated to house the Division of Hematopathology and its associated laboratories. Space in Scaife Hall for faculty research will also be renovated which will serve as space for the newly recruited faculty.

4. Financial picture. The Department has managed to balance its budget following the faculty restructuring of 1995. It did so, without losing strength in the essential diagnostic series. Although there are further decreases anticipated in reimbursement due to national trends, the Department is well positioned to handle potential financial difficulties by being in partnership with UPP and other Departments of the Institution.

5. Practice plan changes. The Practice Plan of the Department (PERF) will merge along with the other not-for-profit practice plans into the newly emerging University of Pittsburgh Physicians (UPP), the newly integrated practice plan. Following this merger as of January 1, the faculty of the Department involved in the diagnostic mission of the Department will share the fringe benefit assigned by UPP for all members of the faculty. The reserve funds of the Department will remain
under the control of the Department so that it can continue to fulfill its academic mission following the integration of the PERF into UPP.

6. **Quest joint venture.** After lengthy negotiations prolonged by participation of different hospitals and their laboratories, the Quest joint venture is fully established. The Department will provide the medical leadership for the Quest joint venture. Many members of the Department, under the leadership of Dr. Trevor Macpherson, (Medical Director of the Quest Joint Venture) will be the medical director of Subspecialty laboratories and offer their expertise and academic background to ensure that the highest quality of service will be provided. This arrangement is a novel one for the country and allows the department to be a pioneer in collaboration between established commercial laboratories and laboratories of academic institutions with proven intellectual and scientific strength. The experience, likely to succeed through the efforts of the faculty members may become a paradigm for other departments to follow and strengthen the presence of pathology forces coming together in a state of allegiance (academic and commercial) to strengthen patient care and face common financial challenges.

On a personal level, effective November 1, I will return to the Department and devote my undivided attention to matters of our Department, following the arrival of Dr. Arthur Levine as Dean of the School of Medicine and Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences. I am looking forward to this transition, and I hope to be able to apply my acquired knowledge from the last three years to administer the needs of the department and future relationships with the other departments, UPP and the School of Medicine.

Although the overall trends are strong and positive and the future looks reassuring, the faculty should feel encouraged to address any problems that concerns them with administrative structure of the department. I would like to listen to all of your concerns. Although we cannot solve all of the problems, we struggle to ensure that we will provide the faculty the best that can be provided, always with emphasis on enhancing the potential of the faculty for academic achievement.

With my best wishes for the new academic year.

George K. Michalopoulos, M.D., Ph.D.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

Welcome to the Fall of ’98! Much has happened over the past several months.

**PERF merger**
You are anticipating that PERF will be merged into UPP effective January 1, 1999. In anticipation of this merger, clinical faculty members within the Department have been asked to complete payroll enrollment forms that were due back to the Department's administrative office, Room S707 Scaife Hall, by the end of the business day on Tuesday, September 29. If you have not received a packet of UPP enrollment materials at your home address, please contact Monica Tietsworth, at 648-9699. Current and former members will receive further information about their pension and long-term disability policies as they begin to shape over the next several months.

As issues arise relating to the merger and transition to UPP, I will continue to keep you posted both via e-mail and mail to your home address.

**Office Relocations**
In anticipation of the merger and transition to UPP, we have already begun to combine the practice plan and University staff offices. The PERF office, currently located in room S703, Scaife Hall, has moved into the Biomedical Science location in S417, September 1998. Ms. Monica Tietsworth, our academic administrator and residency program coordinator, currently located in (Dr. Gill's office) will move to room S703 Scaife Hall on Nov. 1, 1998. Monica's direct dial is 648-9699.
Ms. Maddie Dusseau, our payroll coordinator, currently located in room S711, Scaife Hall, will be relocated to room S703, Scaife Hall effective December 1998. Maddie's direct dial is 684-1038.

**Department Purchasing Update**
To improve the purchasing process we have temporarily made a change. The primary change to faculty and staff is that the requisition forms be completed directly by the purchaser and the forms should be handwritten legibly. This change eliminates the time it takes to type the form as well as lag time. Please see sample form in S-417 BST as an example of the requisition form. Note numbers 6, 10, 20, and 21 will be completed by the office. Please contact Amy Curran with questions at 648-9511.

**Billing issues**
Please welcome to our administrative staff, Ms. Gail Antonich. Gail worked with us as our graduate student researcher over the last year while she completed her MBA/MHA this past August at the University of Pittsburgh. Many of you may remember Gail from her days in PUH Anatomic Pathology as a Histology Technician in the Anatomy Lab. Ms. Antonich will be responsible for billing issues and the transition of our billing operations from MEDAPHIS to UPP. Please join me in welcoming Gail formally to her new role in the Department. Gail will be located in room S703 Scaife Hall until Oct. 31 and then in room S416 of the Biomedical Science Tower. She can be reached at 648-1926.

We have recently instituted a Patient Billing Review Committee, under the direction of Dr. Greg Naus and myself. Membership on the committee includes Dr. Samuel Yousem, Dr. Greg Naus, Dr. Ronald Jaffe, Dr. Anna Roman-Koller and Gail Antonich. This committee will review a variety of patient billing issues that occur on a monthly basis as well as managed-care contracting issues. The committee has invited Padget and Associates, a pathology consulting firm to review ongoing billing issues. Mr. Padget discussed with us the distribution of services at the faculty meeting on October 26.

**Financial reporting system**
We have upgraded our research grant financial reporting system within the last two weeks and anticipate that you should begin to receive an upgraded financial report on your research accounts within the next month. We have also upgraded our reporting system within PERF and you should also begin receiving monthly reports on your PERF accounts. It is our hope that prior to the transition to UPP, we will be able to begin to provide you with a combined reporting mechanism of all funds that are available to you within the department, i.e., research, academic, books, dues and travel and consult funds.

**Graduate Program**
I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Bowser for his tireless support and efforts on our behalf as the faculty oversight for the grants component of our administrative office. Dr. Bowser has provided us with the ability to communicate faculty needs and expectations more effectively to our administrative office and has established sorely needed guidelines for faculty responsibilities in the grants submission process.

**Residency Program**
We have also instituted an administrative component in our residency program for the upcoming year. We hope to provide our residents with programming in employment contracting, hospital contracting, managed care contracting, community relations issues, supervisor and managing employees issues as well as "how to deal with hospital administrators"! If you have an idea for a programming topic, please forward it to Ms. Monica Tietsworth at Tietsworthm@msx.upmc.edu, or Dr. Jeff Kant, at kantj@msx.upmc.edu.

**Adopt-a-Family**
As in past years, the department organized a food drive but since so many other places are involved with this activity, the Department would like to "adopt a family" this holiday season instead. Last year the response was so receptive by members in our department that we would like to adopt two families this year. The families are from Stewart Avenue Lutheran Church. One family has five children ages 12, 10, 6, 4 and 2. All are girls except the 6-year-old who is a boy and autistic. The second
family has three children ages 14, 5 and 3. The father of this family has a disability and both families struggle to survive financially. If you would like to give to our Department’s charitable cause this holiday season, please contact Chris at 648-1040. Your support of this project is appreciated.

**Bulletin Boards**

Bulletin Boards have been hung in the Biomedical Science Tower and this is a reminder that there are three large bulletin boards located in the hallways for the purpose of displaying scientific poster presentations. Please call or e-mail Chris Szalkuski if you would like to use them for a research display at 648-1040.

**Email list**

Finally, please find attached to this issue of our newsletter a complete listing of all e-mail addresses that have been submitted to us to date. If you have an e-mail address change that is not included in this listing, please send an e-mail with the updated information to Chris Szalkuski at szalkuskict@msx.upmc.edu or fax a revision to 648-9846. We will provide an updated listing with each issue of the Pathology Quarterly throughout this academic year.

Effective September 1, I have begun to formally split my time (physically) between the Department’s administrative office, room S411, Biomedical Science Tower and the UPP office, room 9039 Forbes Tower. I can be directly reached on Mondays and Wednesdays at the UPP office, at 647-4693, by fax at 647-2039, or via e-mail.

If you have questions related to any of the issues above, please feel free to contact me directly via e-mail at romankolleram@msx.upmc.edu or 648-9550.

Anna Roman-Koller, Ph.D.

**PERF Update**

Updated PERF research and discretionary balances will be mailed the 25th of the following month's expense, i.e. October's expenses will be mailed November 25. All University account reports including development funds and grants will be reported by the 30th of the following month. If you have questions about these reports, please call Hal Neal at 648-9509.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PERF MEMBERS:**

In order to prepare for the transition into UPP January 1, 1999, PERF will be unable to cut checks after **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1998**. All check requests must be **IN OUR HANDS by noon on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1998** for processing. Any check requests arriving after this date will be returned. UPP requires all reimbursement requests to be submitted on new forms (we have not received these to date). PERF will not be able to make ANY exceptions. We will provide all Division Directors with the balances of Books, Dues, and Travel and Medical Expense Accounts for their members. We expect to receive forms, documentation and training for the UPP procedures late in November. We will meet with the appropriate staff/faculty early in December to communicate the changes. Please contact Hal Neal at 648-1926 if you require any additional information or assistance. Thank you.

Susan DiGeronimo-Wild, M.H.A/M.B.A.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

The Department of Pathology will observe the Thanksgiving Holiday and be **closed** on **Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27**. This also includes the PERF Administrative Offices.

The Christmas Holiday **Administrative Office schedule will be as follows: December 24-January 1, 1999 all offices will be closed**, however, a
skeleton crew will be in on **December 29 & 30** from 10:00 until 3:00 p.m.

**Glassware Labs** will be open Monday, **December 28** from 10:00 until 3:00 p.m.

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

On **November 16, 1998** a faculty meeting and retirement reception for Dr. Thomas J. Gill III, Professor and Inaugural Maud Menten Chair of Pathology and Dr. Hisashi Shinozuka, Professor of Pathology, will be held in Room S-100 BST at 4:00 p.m.

Annual Department Holiday gathering will be held this year on **Saturday, December 12, 1998** from 6:30 - 10:30 p.m. at Phipps Conservatory.

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**Many Reasons to visit the Payroll Office**

1. **To get your pay stub.**
   Sure, you may have direct deposit, but your stub provides proof of income and that you have paid Pittsburgh occupational tax. It describes your health insurance payments (if any) and is the place to check if any changes in tax filing status have been recorded by payroll.

2. **To set up or cancel direct deposit.**
   See #16 for more details about direct deposit.

3. **To change your name.**
   To change your name, due to marriage, divorce or because you just want to change it, **you first need to change your name with the Social Security Office.** Nearby Social Security offices are: East Liberty--6117 Penn Circle North, Downtown--915 Penn Ave. Others are listed in the blue pages of your city telephone directory. When you get your new card, present it to the Payroll Office so that your name can be changed within the University system.

4. **Changing your address and or/telephone number, fax and email addresses.**

5. **If you don't live in Pittsburgh.**
   Because you realize that you don't live in Pittsburgh, but in some lovely borough with very low taxes, please pick up a form WTEX, have it signed by your borough tax collector, then return it to the Payroll Office.

6. **Folks from foreign countries.**
   C If your **J-1 (IAP-66)** expires in one to two months.
   C If your **H-IB visa** expires in six months.
   C If you recently received your Permanent Resident "**green card.**"
   C If you recently received your **authorization to work** card, or a new authorization to work card.
7. **To resign.**
   Faculty should submit a resignation letter to Dr. Michalopoulos and division director. Staff should give a copy to your supervisor which should include your final date of employment. An exit interview will be scheduled by the Payroll Office.

8. **To hire staff.**
   Faculty who are wanting to hire staff should initiate the process through the Payroll Office. This includes foreign recruits as well.

9. **Medical Leaves.**
   If you are going on leave or have just returned from a leave (personal or Family and Medical Leave Act).

10. **Tracking of vacation and sick time.**
    For staff, turning in your time sheet each month is mandatory for accurate vacation and sick time records.

11. **Completion of a degree.**
    This is tracked on your employee record.

12. **Graduate Faculty Status.**
    If you became part of the graduate faculty, this needs to be included on your employee record.

13. **Secondary Appointments.**
    If you have recently obtained a secondary appointment in another Department; this is tracked on the employee record.

14. **Emergency Contact Person.**
    This is tracked in our database reconfirmand/or changed annually - name, relationship and phone number are needed.

15. **To change your W-4.**
    This can make tax time go more smoothly, and is often necessary if your status changes (e.g. marriage or divorce, having a child). You may also want to change your deductions or withhold extra funds.

16. **Direct Deposit.** Direct deposit is a great convenience most of the time. However, there can be difficulties caused by the following:

    ! You have closed your account without canceling your direct deposit with the University. In this case, the deposit may be refused by the bank, and you will receive a check from the University some time later. Alternatively, the deposit may reopen the account, but the bank may freeze the newly reopened account. You will have your money in an account that you cannot access until you work out the details with the bank which can take time and cost you money.

    ! You have terminated your employment, moved out of town and you did not cancel your direct deposit. You are now in the same scenario as above, but you are out-of-town where it is difficult to rectify the situation.

    ! You don't get paid or you get paid an unexpected amount. This is more likely to happen to people on annual appointments, especially those with unusual end dates. Since appointments for some people are tied to visa dates, there can be multiple issues with reappointments. The cautious route for anyone is to wait until you have the check to see that money is actually in the account.

    ! You have direct deposit, so you never pick up your deposit slip and look at your deductions, until at year's end you discover that all of your deductions are wrong, and you owe a lot of money. It is a very good idea to check the place on the top of your deposit form which lists your deductions every time that you change deductions on your W-4, especially if you are going from an "exempt" student status to being a tax-paying citizen.

   **Maddie Dusseau, B.A.**
RESIDENCY PROGRAM UPDATE

After six successful years as Residency Program Director, Dr. Samuel Yousem turned this responsibility over July 1 to Dr. Jeffrey Kant, Director of the Department's Molecular Diagnostics Division. With a blend of good sense and creative ideas, Sam maintained and enhanced the quality of residents attracted to the program. Sam and Gerry Sheahan, Director of the Pathology Department at Shadyside, also deserve kudos for a smooth and successful merger of the UPMC and Shadyside programs. Sam will continue to be actively involved in the Residency Program in his capacity as Vice-Chair for Anatomic Pathology and Director of the Surgical Pathology rotation at UPMC Presbyterian. Diana Winters, who did an excellent job as Program Coordinator for the past two years will become Dr. Yousem's full-time secretary. Monica Tietsworth, Administrative Director in the Department, has taken on the Residency Program responsibilities. Our best wishes for a job well done go to Sam and Diana, and to Jeff and Monica as they assume these important roles.

There is an excellent complement of 26 residents currently and we plan to recruit 6-8 new people for 1999. Residents are engaged in the traditional variety of diagnostic and clinical experiences, and a number are pursuing scholarly projects of a clinical or basic nature. The Residency Program picnic in North Park in early September was an excellent opportunity for residents, faculty and staff to meet under ideal weather conditions, and get to know one another in more relaxed circumstances than the hospital environment often permits.

The program will largely follow past successful patterns this year. A few new initiatives include some expansions and enhancements of conferences in Clinical Pathology. The commencement of a formal and broadened management curriculum and experiences in the winter, discussions and evaluation of how to structure and intermix resident experiences in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology rotations and a restructuring of the Residency Selection Committee.

Residency interviews are scheduled for November 20, December 11, December 18, January 15, and January 22nd and will includes a breakfast in the Conference Center at 8:30 A.M. with presentations given by a representative from each speciality. The applicants will then interview with members of the Residency Selection Committee, attend lunch with several of the residents and tour the hospital. The interviews will conclude with a reception in 1104 UPMC from 4:30 to 6:00 in which all AP and CP faculty are invited to attend.

For information call Ms. Tietsworth, (412) 648-9699 or Dr. Kant, (412) 648-8519.

Jeffrey Kant, M.D., Ph.D.
Monica Tietsworth, B.S.

On October 27 the Pittsburgh MD/PhD program was visited by the National Institutes of Health. We hope to obtain a total of 11 funded slots from NIH. Combining this grant with funds made available through Dr. Michalopoulos and Dr. Levine we plan on matriculating 13 new students in the fall of 1999. This would represent ~ 9% of the incoming class of 150.

Competition for funded combined degree slots is expected to be as fierce this year as it was last year. We anticipate receiving between 120 and 150 applicants to the combined degree program. Over the next 3 months we will interview -70 of these top notch students and invite 45 of them back for a recruitment weekend March 19 through the 21. Many of the applicants have indicated interest in Pathology, so you may be asked to help out in our recruitment endeavors.

M.D./Ph.D. PROGRAM UPDATE

Jeffrey Kant, M.D., Ph.D.
Monica Tietsworth, B.S.
Millennium and the University of Pittsburgh Tissue Bank Collaboration.

Millennium Pharmaceuticals has formed a three year research collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Health System at the University of Pittsburgh to create a comprehensive clinically annotated tissue bank. The tissue bank is intended to further the understanding of human disease processes and to facilitate the identification of novel molecular targets for the development of therapeutic and diagnostic agents. Initially, the collaboration will focus on oncology and cardiovascular and pulmonary disorders.

The collaboration will build upon the Western Pennsylvania Genitourinary Tissue Bank established in 1992 by Dr. Michael Becich, who serves as the Director of the Urologic Pathobiology Laboratory. The overall administration, coordination and development of the tissue bank will be directed by Dr. Rajiv Dhir who will be working closely with Dr. Michael Donovan, Director of Molecular Pathology at Millennium.

The Third Annual Conference on Anatomic Pathology Informatics, Imaging, and the Internet (APIII98) will be held on November 5, 6, 7, 1998 at the Marriott Hotel City Center in Downtown Pittsburgh. This course is sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences, the Department of Pathology, Division of Pathology Informatics and UPMC Health System Information Services Division. This year, the Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences designates this continuing medical education activity for a maximum of 18.0 hours of Category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award and 1.7 Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

The course is designed for academic and practicing pathologists, residents, fellows, computer support personnel and lab managers who are interested in learning how Informatics is impacting and transforming pathology and is intended to provide attendees with a broad overview of uses for imaging, the Internet and advanced technologies in pathology practice. All conference information can be accessed from the web site at URL: http://www.pathology.pitt.edu/apiii98.

The keynote speaker for this year’s conference will be Lance A. Liotta, MD, PhD. Chief of the Laboratory of Pathology, National Cancer Institute at National Institutes of Health. He will address the attendees concerning the "National Institutes of Health Cancer Genome Anatomy Project."

Four focus sessions for this year's conference are: See URL:http://www.pathology.pitt.edu/apiii98/prog.htm.
1. The CAP Today Focus Session - "Innovative Solutions for Implementing New Technologies to Enhance Your Laboratory Information Systems."
2. The Clinical Laboratory Management Association (CLMA) focus Session - “Integrating and Regionalizing Laboratory Information.”
3. The American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) Focus Session “Voice Recognition Implementation in Your Pathology Practice.”
4. "Internet and Extranets in Pathology"

Panel discussions will provide participants the opportunity to interact with the faculty and are planned for all four sessions.

Workshops will be presented addressing: Principles for Implementing a Telepathology Strategy for Your Practice; Imaging in Pathology Practice; Web-based, Image-enhanced Reporting; Information Therapy and Pathology; Multimedia and Voice Recognition.
FELLOWSHIP TRAINING UPDATE

Subspecialty training in Pathology offers numerous career benefits. For those residents interested in exclusively clinical careers, there are several fellowships in the Department of Pathology that offer unique specialty training to distinguish program graduates. Several of the Department's Divisions also offer subspecialty training for futures combining clinical research careers. As fellowship commitments are made early, residents interested in obtaining subspecialty training are encouraged to meet with Division Directors 18-24 months ahead of time.

Recent scientific advances promise to make a career in the study of Neurologic Disease both scientifically and academically rewarding. The Neuropathology Division is structured to encourage maximum interaction between basic and clinical science researchers. Active areas of investigation run the gamut from neurodevelopment to neurodegeneration. Annually the Division of Neuropathology has available several fellowships.

University of Pittsburgh Faculty and Staff and UPMC Health System Members may register at a substantial discount. Fellows and Residents of the Department of Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC Health System may register at no cost.

If you are interested in attending, please register using the form on the web site at URL: http://www.pathology.pitt.edu/apii98/regform.htm. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ron Yori or 412-648-9526 or by email yorirw@msx.upmc.edu or Barb Siket 412-647-6634 at siketbj@msx.upmc.edu.

Clayton Wiley, M.D., Ph.D.
The BGSA (Biomedical Graduate Student Association of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine) will hold its annual symposium on **Friday, November 13, 1998, in S100 BST.** There will be morning and afternoon poster sessions and student presentations throughout the day. This year's speaker will be **Dr. Arthur Levine**, who will be taking office as the Dean of Medicine and Senior Vice chancellor for Health Sciences on November 1. All Students are encouraged to actively participate in this event by either preparing a poster or an oral presentation about their research. An abstract should be presented to the symposium committee by giving your abstract to your BGSA home page at [http://www.pitt.edu/~biomedic/](http://www.pitt.edu/~biomedic/). Abstracts were due by Wednesday, October 14. If you have any questions, please contact John Dileo at 648-1487.

**David Bahler, M.D.** received the Leukemia Society of America Translational Research Grant entitled "Identification of Antigens involved in salivary gland Lymphomagenesis" with a total direct cost of $100,000 per year for three years.

**Robert Bowser, Ph.D.** is Principal Investigator of a two year Alzheimer's Association grant entitled: "Detection and characterization of altered gene expression in early stage Alzheimer's disease", $80,000 1/1/98-7/31/00. He was also awarded a pilot grant in the amount of $25,000 by the Parkinson's Disease Center for Excellence; 10/1/98-9/30/99.

**United Way Campaign**

Fall not only brings to us PITT Football (Go Panthers!) But also the Annual United Way. This year, our faculty coordinator Dr. Strom, and our staff coordinator Chris Szalkuski. You should have received your pledge sheet by now. Please return the sheet even if you do not pledge and you will be eligible for the United Way gift drawings. All forms are due to Chris in room S-410 BST by November 23. Any donation is welcomed.

**Phipps Conservatory**

Pitt students are eligible for free admission to Carnegie Museums and Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Garden. Just show your Pitt ID at the door. This only applies to currently enrolled Pitt students for the 98-99 fall/spring terms. Tours not included. Does not apply to staff or faculty who are taking classes.

**Bloodborne Pathogens Training**

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety had a Bloodborne Pathogens Training class October 6, 1998 in the GSPH. This training is required for all University of Pittsburgh employees working with or exposed to HUMAN blood or body fluids. Register at the training session and bring your valid Pitt ID. If you have not had training and interested in future training sessions, please call Chris Szalkuski for the upcoming dates on this training.

**Chemical Hygiene and Laboratory Safety Training**

The University of Pittsburgh Department of Environmental Health and Safety is conducting the following Chemical Hygiene and Laboratory Safety Training Sessions which are required for all employees working with hazardous chemicals. All sessions will be held at the GSPH Auditorium G23 from 9:00 a.m to 10:30 a.m. on the following days: Tuesday, November 17 and Tuesday, December 15. Dr. Jeanne Jordan is the Chemical Hygiene Officer for the School of Medicine. Registration is on-site.
University E-Store
On August 1, 1998, the University of Pittsburgh e-store was open for business. The e-store is an internet based, online computer store. Through a web page, students, faculty and staff will be able to view, select and order University recommended and supported computers and accessories. The e-store will provide the services previously available through the PC Center and offer a wider variety of products and more competitive pricing. They are working on an automated ordering process for departments. Until this is in place, departments will be able to order products available through e-store using procedures for PRISM or purchase orders. An announcement will soon be sent to the University community with the details for accessing the online store.

Computing and Information Services
CIS recognizes the need for centralized as well as distributed information technology resources to support the implementation of technology-related initiatives across campus. CIS currently provides two types of general support for University departments: the basic level consulting service and the contract program. These services are being augmented with the introduction of the Expert Partners program. This program will provide centralized information technology resources to all technical support personnel, regardless of departmental affiliation. The contract program was designed to meet departmental needs that exceed the level of support that can be accommodated by the basic level of services. Contact program services include the basic level services, as well as departmental network design and implementation, customized departmental training programs, evaluation of specialized hardware and World Wide Web consulting. Contract analysts are also available to assist departments with long-term technical planning. Additional information about all of the programs mentioned can be obtained by calling 624-6107.

Tuesday, November 10, 7:30 a.m.
Conference Center Auditorium, Magee Womens Hospital
Annual Aron E. Szulman Lecture
"Transgenic models of lung morphogenesis and surfactant function"
Jeffrey A. Whitsett, M.D.
Professor of Pediatrics
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Cincinnati, OH

Wednesday, November 11, 12 noon 1104 UPMC Conference Center
"Clinical and fundamental studies in hepatic biology"
Wolfgang E. Fleig, M.D.
Professor of Medicine and Chairman
First Department of Medicine
Martin-Luther-University
Halle, Germany

Wednesday, November 18 4:00 p.m. Scaife Hall Lecture Room 5
Robert S. Totten Lecture
"The spectrum of benign osteoblastic tumors of bone: Aggressive Osteoblastoma Revisited"
Howard D. Dorfman, M.D.
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
Head, Section of Orthopaedic Pathology
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Bronx, New York

Monday, November 23 10:00 a.m. 1103 UPMC Conference Center
"Current developments in extracorporeal Bio-Artificial (BAL) design utilizing microfabrication, micro-fluides and photolithographic hepatocyte patterning for increased function"
Uylsses J. Balis, M.D.
Research Associate
Center for Engineering in Medicine
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA
Wednesday, December 2, 1998, 12:00 noon 1103 UPMC Conference Center
"Chromosomal translocation and the molecular pathogenesis of rhabdomyosarcoma"
Frederic G. Barr, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

Wednesday, December 9, 1998, 12:00 noon 1103 UPMC Conference Center
"The myb oncogene in normal development and in cancer: DNA-binding takes wing"
Joseph Lipsick, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pathology
Stanford University
Stanford, CA

Wednesday, December 16, 1998, 12:00 noon 1103 UPMC Conference Center
"Successful cellular adoptive immunotherapy of cancer?"
Per Basse, M.D., Ph.D., D.M.Sc.
Visiting Associate Professor of Pathology
University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute

Rajnikant Amin, M.D. has transferred to Horizon Hospital as Chief of Pathology effective October 5, 1998.

Michael Becich, M.D., Ph.D. National Committee for National Cancer Institute Informatics Committee, Member, 1998; National Cancer Institute Informatics Committee, Member, 1998; International Academy of Pathologists/United States and Canadian Association of Pathologists Technical Committee, Member, 1998.

Robert Bowser, Ph.D. lectured to the sophomore biology students at Carnegie Mellon University on Careers in Science on September 24, 1998 and lectured on "Alternative gene expression during Alzheimer's disease progression" at the University School of Medicine for the Department of Pharmacology on May 1, 1998.

George Faber, M.D. has been appointed Instructor at Magee-Women's hospital effective July 1, 1998. He recently completed a Cytology fellowship in our program.

Shaila Fernandez, M.D. has given birth to a 7 lbs and 14 ozs, 19 1/2" baby girl on September 28. Mom and baby are doing fine. Congratulations!

Dale Huff, M.D. has resigned from Magee-Women's hospital and the University of Pittsburgh October 5, 1998 and has accepted a position at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia.

Mirka Jones, M.D. recently received the award for "Excellence in teaching of Anatomical Pathology for the year of 1998 presented by the Pathology Residents of the Hospitals of the University Health Center of Pittsburgh. Congratulations! She also presented an abstract “The Evaluation of nm23, Cyclin D-1, p-53 and BCL-2 prediction of tumor aggressiveness in adenocarcinoma of the uterine cervix.” at XXII International Congress of the International Academy of Pathology, October 18-23, Nice, France.

Jeanne Jordan, Ph.D.
American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB) exams for High-complexity Clinical Laboratory Director (HCLD). She has also been promoted to Associate Professor of Pathology. Congratulations! She aims has been named the Chemical Hygiene Officer for the School of Medicine. She will be responsible for implementation and oversight of the Chemical Hygiene Plan for the School of Medicine working closely with the University's Department of Environmental Health and Safety.

Amal Kanbour-Shakir, M.D. *Presented "Is DNA repair capacity altered in breast cancer as compared to normal breast tissue?" * and "Cytohistologic evaluation and cytogenetic study of post-radiation malignant fibrous histiocytoma of the breast at the XXII International Congress of the International Academy of Pathology in October 18-23, 1998 at Nice, France.

The Department would like to thank Bobbi Kostyak for her contribution to the slogan contest for the buttons that the Graduate Program provided
for the graduate student and M.D., Ph.D. student recruitment days in September. If you would like a button, please let us know. Nice job Bobbi!

**Wendy Mars, Ph.D.** gave a seminar at Albert Einstein's Medical Center on May 27 entitled "A Current Understanding of the Role of Urokinase in Early Liver Regeneration."


**Angelina L. Valcos-Saraou M.D.** she has accepted the appointment as Visiting Instructor at Magee-Women's hospital effective November 1, 1998.

**Sharon Silver, M.D.** has accepted the appointment as Assistant Professor of Pathology at Magee-Womens Hospital effective February 1, 1999.

Congratulations to **Xiao-Ming Yin, M.D., Ph.D.** on his candidacy for the PEW scholars award.

**Diane West**, Research Specialist III, has joined our Department in Dr. Michalopoulos' lab. She has recently received her Master's degree from Duquesne University.

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**IN MEMORIUM**

Frank Sherman, M.D., former staff pathologist for a number of years and Director of Pathology at CHP from 1974-1976, passed away in Florida. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 31 in Florida. He is survived by two daughters, Missy Hillman and Rose Lechner. Donations should be given to Fairchild Tropical Gardens, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Miami, FL 33156 or Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. For more information please call Susie Jimick at 692-5655.

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**Publications**


Balamutria Mandillars with a note on Therapeutic
245-250

Runge, D.M., Runge, D., Dorko, K., Pisarov, Abstract 482. 73 Annual meeting.


