### Special Points of Interest

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### Academy of Master Educators

The School of Medicine appointed 49 faculty members at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine as Academy of Master Educators (AME). These appointments are based on the recommendation of the AME Membership Committee and recognizes the sustained record of excellence and achievements in medical education. The appointment is a five year term. Those who were appointed must be involved with education of medical students, graduate students and/or residents for the duration of the appointment to the Academy. We are proud to announce that Dr. Gregory Naus has been appointed from the Department of Pathology. For guidelines on membership to the Academy, please see: http://www.medschool.pitt.edu/academy/. Congratulations Dr. Naus!

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### CAP INSPECTION

CAP Inspection of the Clinical Labs has been planned by the team leaders for Monday, April 17--Thursday, April 20. Opening session will be scheduled in the CLSI Main Conference Room (room 5630) and the Summation meeting will be scheduled in the Children’s Hospital McClusky Auditorium. Times will be announced. Call Bev Charlton if you have any questions at 647-5855.

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### Dates to Remember

- **Tuesday, March 14, 2006**, 6:00 p.m. final live OIG session in lecture room 6 Scaife Hall (See Page 13 for details)
- **Monday, March 27, 4:00 p.m.** Department Faculty meeting 1104 UPMC Conference Center
- **APIII August 16-18**  
  **Vancouver, British Columbia**  
  For conference information see http://apiii.upmc.edu  
  Registration deadline June 30  
  Abstract deadline May 22
"The Myb Oncoprotein is Required for Progression in Prophase of Mitosis"
Joseph Lipsick, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Pathology
Department of Pathology
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, CA
Wed. March 1, 2006 12 noon
1104 UPMC Conference Center

"Prospects for a Gene Therapy Approach for Alzheimer's Parkinson's Disease"
2nd Annual Martinez Memorial Lecture
Eliezer Maslaih, M.D.
Professor of Pathology and Neurosciences
University of California, San Diego
LaJolla, CA
Tues. March 14 4:00 p.m.
1103 UPMC Conference Center

"Mechanism of Life Span Extension In Long-Lived Mice"
Gretchen J. Darlington, Ph.D.
Professor, Huffington Center for Aging
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX
Wed. March 15, 2006 12 noon
1105 B/C UPMC Conference Center

"Integrin-Linked Kinase (ILK): Critical Roles in ECM-Actin Cytoskeletal Organization, Cell Survival and Oncogenesis"
Shoukat Dedhar, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Biochemistry
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia
Wed. March 22, 2006 12 noon
1105 B/C Conference Center

"Structure-function and Evolution of the Orphan Nuclear Hormon Receptors PXR and CAR"
Matthew Krasowski, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Pathology
Division of Clinical Chemistry
University of Pittsburgh
Wed. March 29, 2006 12 noon
1105 B/C UPMC Conference Center


Publications continued from page 2


**ABSTRACTS**

Patel, AA; Gupta, D; Seligseon, D; Hattab, EM; Balis, U; Ulbright, TM; Berman, JJ; Gilbertson, JR; Becich, MJ; Parwani AV. Availability and Quality of Paraffin Blocks Identified by the Shared Pathology Informatics Network (SPIN): A Multi-institutional Study (Accepted for presentation at The United States and Canada Academy of Pathology, 2006 Annual Meeting in Atlanta).

Patel, AA; Gilberston, JR; Parwani, AV; Dhir, R; Datta, MW, Gupta, R; Berman, JJ; Becich, MJ, Cooperative Prostate Cancer Tissue Resource (Accepted for presentation at The United States and Canada Academy of Pathology, 2006 Annual Meeting in Atlanta).

Fine, JL; Yagi, Y; Parwani, AV; Becich, MJ; Gilbertson. Impact of Internet Based Resources on Resident Teaching and Educational Conferences: Experience at a University Affiliated Hospital Network Comprising Academic and Community Based Pathology Practices. (Accepted for presentation at The United States and Canada Academy of Pathology, 2006 Annual Meeting in Atlanta).


Ho J, Parwani AV, Jukic D, Yagi Y, Anthony L, Gilbertson J. Use of whole slide imaging for primary diagnosis in surgical pathology: an intrainstitutional validation study. (Accepted for presentation at The United States and Canada Academy of Pathology, 2006 Annual Meeting in Atlanta).
**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Jeffrey Kant, M.D., Ph.D.** has joined the CAP Economic Affairs Committee. He will continue as Chair of the Joint Biochemical and Molecular Genetics with ACMG. He is a member of the Molecular Pathology Committee and will be the CAP representative to an international task force developing recommendations for genetic testing standards under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). He attended the meeting of this group in Berlin, Germany January 29-31.

**Darrell J. Triulzi, M.D.** Was elected to a two year term on the AABB Board of directors. He was also named to the editorial board of the journal TRANSFUSION. He was also selected by NHLBI to chair an Institute strategic planning committee for funding areas related to blood safety and availability. Dr. Triulzi was honored with the Ned Maxwell Award from the Institute for Transfusion Medicine recognizing 15 years of outstanding contribution to ITxM.


Dr Bhargava’s paper published in the Am J Clinical Pathol in 2005 (HER-2/neu and Topoisomerase IIa Gene Amplification and Protein Expression in Invasive Breast Carcinomas: Chromogenic In Situ Hybridization and Immunohistochemical Analyses. Bhargava R, Lal P, Chen B. Am J Clin Pathol. 2005 Jun;123(6):889-95.) has been chosen as "THE BEST OF AJCP 2005" and will be presented by the senior author of the paper at the ASCP companion meeting at USCAP 2006 on Sunday evening Feb 12.

“In the long run, we shape our lives and we shape ourselves. The process never ends until we die, and the choices that we make are ultimately our responsibility.”

Eleanor Roosevelt, first lady (1933-1945) and reform leader.
HIGHLIGHTS

Vijaya Gandhi, Ph.D., M.B.A., will assume the role of Associate Director of Administration and Strategic Planning at UPCI. Dr. Gandhi will continue as Director of Clinical Research Services and take on added responsibilities as the designated administrator for the cancer institutes’ support grant and contact for the National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute and other agencies. She will work on fiscal strategies for expansion of UPCI’s research endeavors and provide operational leadership for the clinical research program.

Maryann Donovan, M.P.H., Ph.D. has been named Associate Director of Research Services and Advancement of UPCI. Dr. Donovan is responsible for oversight for shared resources, coordination of research and faculty development activities and will prepare and coordinate submission of proposals to secure institutional funding to support research. She will also be UPCI’s scientific representative to the Pennsylvania Cancer Control Consortium and Pennsylvania Cancer Alliance and will participate in legislative efforts to support cancer centers throughout the State.

Xiao-Ming Yin, M.D., Ph.D. has joined the Cellular Signaling and Dynamics Study Section, Center for Scientific Review of NIH beginning 2006 to 2008.

Lisa Teot, M.D. has assumed the role of Associate Director of Pediatric Pathology.

Judy Nestico completed her B.A. Degree in Humanities from the University of Pittsburgh in December. Congratulations!

GO RED FOR WOMEN

Go Red for Women began in February 2004 to raise awareness that heart disease is women’s No.1 killer. The grassroots campaign has since grown into a vibrant national movement as more women, men, celebrities, healthcare providers and community leaders embrace and elevate the cause of women and heart disease. This year, Carolyn Nolte, Payroll Coordinator, played an active role with the activities as she was asked by her cardiologist to be one of the women who participated in the event. Carolyn has had some "heart" issues in the past. She participated in a photo shoot and dinner sponsored by the American Heart Association. She as also served as an “ambassador” for the event on Feb. 3 at the PPG Winter Garden.
HIGHLIGHTS

Maureen Lyons-Weiler, MSc is the recipient of the 2005 AMP Technologist Award sponsored by Third Wave Technologies.

Michael Shurin, M.D., Ph.D. Organized the International meeting "Immune-mediated Diseases: from Theory to Therapy" (Nov. 2005, Moscow, Russia)

Scott Kulich, M.D. was awarded a Career Development Award from the Veterans' Administration, in support of his Research in Parkinson's Disease. The award is for three years, allowing him protected time to continue to excell in his research endeavors. Congratulations.

Gutti Rao, M.D. was awarded "Best Teacher" award, for the second year in a row, from the Department of Neurology Residents and fellows for his excellent and sustained efforts in didactic, microscopic and practical teaching of Neopathology, to the fellows and residents and his dedication in time and effort. Congratulations.

Dr. Anette Duensing gave two presentations: Kunginas Foundation GIST Symposium, "A novel apoptotic mechanism in GIST", November 9-10, 2005, Boston, MA; and Pittsburgh Chromatin Club Mini-symposium, "Imatinib induces tumor cell apoptosis through histone variant H2AX", December 9, 2005, Pittsburgh, PA.


Charleen T. Chu, M.D. was selected as module leader for the FASEB/ASIP course on Concepts in Pathobiology: Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Disease (Director: William Coleman), delivering two lectures at Experimental Biology 2005 entitled: Unit 1a: Tissue Injury and Cell Death and Unit 1b: Cell Death and Disease.

PRESENTATIONS


PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Ronald Jaffe gave the annual Virginia H & Russel McFarland Lecture in Pediatric Pathology at the Texas Children's Hospital, Baylor University, Houston in January.

Dr. Jeffrey Kant gave two talks at the Washington G2-Reports Conference Jan 26-27 in Miami "Building a Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory: The lowdown on key business and technical considerations." He participated in a panel presentation: Insider Snapshots on Three Molecular Diagnostics Laboratories on Thursday and gave a separate talk Friday: Billing and Reimbursement for Molecular assays, Trickle down - or better?

Sharawnda Smith (first year grad student) is spending 3 months rotating in Dr. Ochoa's laboratory. Andrew Walls (2nd year resident) presented a poster at the USCAP meeting in Atlanta, "Walls A, Michalopoulos G, Demetris A, Ochoa E. HNF-4a Expression in Human Liver Regeneration after Massive Hepatic Necrosis."


**GRANTS**

Sharon Winters, MS, RHIA, CTR, Director of Registry Information Services, received funding from WEDNet PA Guaranteed Free Training for $40,000 to begin February 1-June 30, 2006. The grant is for Information Technology and Basic Skills Training for 140 employees.

Anil Parwani, M.D., Ph.D. and Sharon Winters MS, RHIA, CTR received funding from UPMC Shadyside Hospital Competitive Research Fund for $9,719. beginning January 1-December 31, 2006. Title of project funded is: “Analysis of a Standardized Pathology Reporting System.”


Charleen T. Chu, MD, PhD. (PI) Regulation of PTEN-induced kinase 1 (PINK1). NIH/ NS053777-01. This project is designed to determine if PINK1 functions as a kinase, participating in death-regulatory signaling networks with other mitochondrially targeted kinases. Project Period: 08/15/2005-08/14/2007. Project Funding Amount: $100,000/year for two years or $200,000.

Michael Shurin, M.D. Ph.D. Total Years Awarded: 3 or (December 01, 2005- December 31, 2008) Year 01 Budget: $180,212; Total Budget: $552,510. Funded by Department of Defense, US ARMY Medical Research and Materiel Command Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs, Prostate Cancer Research Program. Main goal of Dr. Shurin is to determine how the prostate tumor escapes immune recognition and to exploit this knowledge to develop new diagnostic markers and therapies for the disease.

**VA MEDICAL CENTER**

Clinical Laboratory of the Future

Pathology and Lab Medicine at the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare system is in the process of installing a fully automated Chemistry Analysis system. This is the second system to be installed in all of the VA’s. This system consists of a conveyer belt that starts at the specimen receiving window and connects to all the instruments in the lab. It is fully bar coded and will help the lab deal with the exponential increase in workload, ensure that the specimens are appropriately centrifuged, directed to the appropriate analyzer and stored in an organized Stock yard for future add-on testing if needed. It will also eliminate almost all clerical errors caused by handling specimens. We anticipate it will be fully operational before the end of this quarter. Mona Melhem, M.D., Associate Chief of Staff and Vice President of Clinical Support Service and Line.
Abstracts to be presented by our department at the Feb 10-17 at the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology meeting in Atlanta:


5. Clinical Significance of Lobular Neoplasia on Core Biopsy. R G Karabakhtsian1, R Johnson2, J Sumkin3 and D J Dabbs1. 1Pathology, Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, Pittsburgh, PA; 2Surgery, Magee-Womens Hospitalof UPMC, Pittsburgh, PA and 3Radiology, Magee Womens Hospital of UPMC, Pittsburgh, PA.


7. The Spectrum of Molecular Morphologic Abnormalities of the E-Cadherin-Catenin Complex in Pleomorphic Lobular Carcinoma of the Breast. D J Dabbs1, M Kapali1, A I Kanbour1, A Kanbour-Shakir1 and G J Carter1. 1Pathology, Magee-Womens Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA, United States.

8. Tissue Fixation in Surgical Pathology for Proteome Analysis and Protein/DNA Preservation. D J Dabbs1, T El-Hefnawy2, D E Malehorn2, R Elbakri2 and W L Bigbee2. 1Pathology, Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, Pittsburgh, PA, United States and 2Pathology, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, United States.


Continued on page 11
Jones MW (first author)
10. Expression of D2-40 in primary peritoneal carcinomas, ovarian serous carcinomas, uterine carcinomas and sexcord stromal tumors.

Chivukula, M(first author)
11. Clinical significance of cytologic diagnosis of atypical squamous cells cannot exclude high grade intraepithelial neoplasia in perimenopausal and postmenopausal women.

Saad, R.(first author)
12. What is the utility of repeat HPV testing on ASCUS/LSIL cases followed by repeat pap tests.

Kapali, M(first author)
13. Utility of P16 immuncytochemistry and high risk HPV in situ hybridization in liquid based pap tests with a diagnosis of ASC-H.

USCAP Stowell-Orbison Awards Competition for Pathologists-in-Training

According to this year's records, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center was tied for one of the top five programs in the world in terms of acceptance of scientific abstracts for the prestigious Stowell-Orbison Awards Competition for Pathologists-in Training for the US and Canadian Academy of Pathology Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia February 11-17. Over one hundred academic programs from throughout North America and the world participated in the submission process (over 80 in the US and Canada) had abstracts accepted in this prestigious competition.

American Society for Investigative Pathology Fellowship

Zahida Khan, G4, MD/PhD Student, Pitt/CMU Medical Scientist Training Program, CATER Trainee, McGowan Institute of Regenerative Medicine is the recipient of the ASIP fellowship for 2006. The American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP) is pleased to present the Young Pathologist Fellowship (YPF) which offers 12 graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in pathology a unique opportunity to attend symposia, lectures, and poster sessions; network with career pathologists; explore career pathways; and explore the latest technological and biomedical advances at the Experimental Biology (EB) Meeting. Each year, 12,000 - 15,000 biomedical scientists worldwide participate in the EB meeting to share the latest scientific research, and YPF fellowships are limited to 12 per year.

This year's meeting will be in San Francisco, CA April 1-5. Congratulations Za!
Educational Credit Units (ECU)

Every fall we are asked to submit to the Dean's Office the Department's teaching commitments for each faculty member. As many of you know, we ask you to review the information that is supplied by the Dean's office and add anything that may be missing. In an effort to be more efficient at recording the Department's teaching commitments, this article is sent to ask you to remember to record what you do throughout the year. The ECU information is of critical importance since it determines a portion of the School of Medicine's teaching budget allocated to the Department of Pathology. The areas for which data is collected includes the following:

Instructional Activities: defined teaching activities for: MS-1, MS-2, MS-3, and MS-4 years; M.Sc, Ph.D. and post-doctoral programs

Research Supervision: include the names students supervised as well as the exact dates and times of the supervision.

Administrative Activities: administrative time used to organized blocks or courses. Exact dates and times need to be included.

Advising Activities: advising activities for: MS-1, MS-2, MS-3, and MS-4 years; M.Sc., Ph.D., and postdoctoral mentoring. Names of students with exact dates and times need to be included.

Committee Activities: medical student committee service that directly supports UPSOM educational programs. Names of students with exact dates and times need to be included.

AOC (Area of Concentration) is for collecting data on areas of expertise that are taught in various course. Exact dates and times need to be included.

The data collected is for teaching and teaching-related activities that occurred between 7/1/05 to 6/30/06.

Also, teaching activities involving RESIDENTS are not applicable to the ECU data collection project.

In order to document your activities, an ECU tracking table was emailed to you recently. If you would like another copy, please let me know. If you keep track of your ECU's during the year it should be easier to report them when the time comes.

Thank you.

Chris Szalkuski
**TEACHING/ PROMOTION MATERIALS**

This is just a note to new faculty members who may not be aware of the items needed for promotion. At some point in time, when the “big” moment comes and you are up for promotion, you will need to supply the Office of the Dean with a dossier. The dossier contains copies of your most recent publications and depending whether you are tenure or nontenure, you will need to supply a history of your grant support. Last of all, you will need to provide teaching evaluations. If you teach medical school courses, the School of Medicine does conduct course evaluations. Please keep any evaluation you may receive in this regard. Graduate School teaching evaluations are also applicable for the dossier also. The purpose of this communication is to advise you to file any evaluation or feedback regarding your teaching so when the time comes, you will have it ready or your dossier. You can send me any copies of evaluations for this purpose if you wish (and many of you have). Going back in time and to collect evaluations can be very difficult. You can view the dossier requirements at: http://www.medschool.pitt.edu/facultyaffairs/FacProApp/portfoliofinal.taf.

If you have any questions about the dossier, please feel free to contact me. Chris Szalkuski

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**UPP COMPLIANCE TRAINING/EDUCATION**

Have you completed your mandatory UPP Compliance Training/Education requirements? All UPP physicians are required to complete two hours of approved training focusing on high risk compliance and billing topics. The deadline to complete this requirement is April 30, 2006. If you have not completed your training, **you may choose one of the following two options**:

1) **Attend the final live lecture on Tuesday, March 14, 2006**, which will be held in Scaife Hall Auditorium lecture room 6 at 6:00pm. This session will **complete the entire** compliance requirement for 2006!
   
   To accommodate off-campus faculty, the March 14th session will be telecast in real-time at the following locations:
   
   - UPMC Bedford Hospital (Teleconference Room)
   - Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (McCluskey Auditorium)
   - Magee-Womens Hospital (Conference Rooms A & B)
   - UPMC McKeensport Hospital (Kelly Auditorium)
   - UPMC St. Margaret (Conference Center A, B and C)
   - UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside Hospital - Shadyside Campus (West Hall Auditorium)

   Please **RSVP to Nicole Lucarelli** (see contact info below) with your full name and let her know where you will attend.

2) **Complete four 20-minute online sessions at** http://physicianportal.upmc.com/ for the following modules:
   
   a. Physician Teaching Guidelines
   b. Pathology
   c. Two recommended Elective modules: HIPAA Information Security Awareness and HIPAA Privacy Awareness

   Please send the completion certificates for **ALL** modules and any questions to: Nicole Lucarelli,
   Department of Pathology, S415 BST, 200 Lothrop Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261 (TEL: 412-648-1230; Fax: 412-648-1916; Email: lucarellina@upmc.edu). Thank you!
RESIDENCY PROGRAM UPDATE

We have just completed the recruitment process for the 2006-07 academic year. We received over 400 applications for the 6-7 open 1st year positions. As with last year, many of this year’s applicants had strong credentials. We invited 45 candidates for an interview and campus visit; many of these folks also interviewed at the other top Pathology programs in the country. The Residency Committee met earlier this month to review and rank the candidates. The final ranking list is due to the NRMP later this month. A heartfelt thank you to all faculty, residents, and staff who helped with this year’s recruitment efforts.

I am pleased and honored to let you know that the Pathology RRC of the ACGME has granted Full Continued Accreditation (effective October 2005) to our AP/CP Residency Program for five years, the longest term allowable. The average cycle length for all Core Pathology Programs reviewed by the ACGME in 2004-05 (the latest period for which statistics are available) was 3.1 years. The RRC found no significant problems and commended our Program for - among other things - the quality of education, scholarly activity, and certification examination performance. I would like to thank everyone who participated in our site visit, especially Trish and Senth and the Chief Residents for the past three years (Muammar Arida, Suzanne Bakdash, Kudakwashe Chikwava, Nicole Esposito, Melina Flanagan, Diana Ionescu, John Ozolek, Sourav Ray, Hina Sheikh, and Manuel Zarandona). There is so much to be proud of in our Residency Program - and the ACGME appears to agree.

Greg Naus, M.D. Residency Program Director

CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORMS UPP & UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH DUE APRIL 15, 2006

The annual Conflict of Interest (COI) forms are due by April 15, 2006. The forms are available at the COI Superform website at <https://coi.health.pitt.edu/front.asp>. The site may be used to satisfy the COI disclosure requirements for the University, UPMC and UPP. Upon login to the Superform Web site, you will be presented with the data from your most recent submission. You may submit the same data if still current or you may edit the form. Those who are using the forms for the first time should register when entering the Web site, provide an email address and a password. The password is self-selected and therefore can be synchronized with passwords associated with other online resources. No hard copy forms are accepted, however, when you are done with your submission, you must print the summary disclosure form and send it to Dr. Michalopoulos for review and signature. The Winter issue of the Physicians Services News (page 4) includes information regarding the most frequently asked questions about the COI. Access the Newsletter at: http://infonet.upmc.edu/, go to “quick links” then “newsletters” then “Physician Services News” then click Winter 2006. Please note the last question on page 5 - the most common problems with filing a COI disclosure and how to avoid them since it is very informative. One of the common problems noted was filing after the deadline date of April 15. Any questions about the forms, please feel free to call me at 648-1040. Chris
Getting ready.....

Those who explained what we were eating.....

Hmmm ... how much can I get on this plate....

Good to get a break from grants ..... better fill up now... may not see the light of day until the deadline is over....

Those who wore red (and pink!) and those who did not.

More red........ and pink ....and other!