The annual Pathology Retreat and Research Day was held on June 24-26 at Seven Springs Resort. Approximately 200 faculty, staff and trainees registered for the event and the weather cooperated throughout the weekend. The emphasis of the retreat was once again on the trainees, with superb oral and poster presentations from our graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, clinical fellows and residents. A panel of faculty judges evaluated each presentation and the following winners were announced on Sunday morning:

**Graduate Students:**
- Chris Shepard
- Anand Iyer
- Julia Liachenko

**Basic Research Fellows:**
- Gang Zeng
- Pallavi Limaye
- Xiao-Hua Shi

**Clinical Research Fellows:**
- Kenichi Tamama
- Adrian Gologan
- Jaideep Behari

As in the past, the Retreat format changes each year. The Friday evening session included faculty presentations on “Hot topics” and included presentations from Rajiv Dhir, M.D., Sattarshan Monga, M.D., and Zoltan Olvai, M.D. The Friday evening reception was sponsored by Ventana Medical Systems, Inc. The Saturday keynote speaker was (cont’d on page 2)

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**D E P A R T M E N T R E T R E A T A T S E V E N S P R I N G S  
J U N E 2 4 - 2 6 , 2 0 0 5**

**Dates to Remember**
Monday, September 19 4:00 p.m. Department Faculty Meeting room 1103 UPMC Conference Center
Department Retreat: June 2-4, 2006 Seven Springs, PA

**Policy on BDT and Computer Purchases**
The current BDT and Computer Purchasing Policies can be accessed via the Department’s Intranet website (http://path.upmc.edu/intranet.htm). A link to these policies is located on the main login page that you use to access your BDT web report. To read the policies, look under the “Policies/Procedures” button on the left side of the page.

**UPMC forms for Disbursements (payments to vendors) and T&B Reimbursements (expense reimbursements) can be found on the UPMC Infonet. You can access the UPMC Infonet homepage at http://infonet.upmc.edu. Select “Forms” from the list under the “Quick Links” tab. Then, select the appropriate form from the dropdown list on the “Forms” page.**

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**“Pathology ranked 5th in total NIH grant awards.”**
Annual Retreat cont’d from page 1

Eric Toner, M.D., from the Center for Biosecurity in Baltimore who discussed influenza pandemics and SARS. Special sessions on careers in Pathology Sunday morning presentations included updates on all Pathology training programs, and Division Director strategic planning initiatives for each Division. The Retreat Committee (Robert Bowser, Ph.D., George Michalopoulos, M.D., Ph.D., Wendy Mars, Ph.D., Mona Melhem, M.D., Antonia Sepulveda, M.D., Ph.D., Jennifer Hunt, M.D., and Satdarshan Monga, M.D.) thanks all those who attended and encourages additional participation from faculty and trainees next year. The departmental retreat is one of the few opportunities for faculty and trainees from throughout the department and all hospitals to interact both professionally and socially. The Retreat Committee welcomes suggestions for format changes or names of potential speakers for next year’s Retreat. Special thanks go to Staff members who helped with on-site registration and set-up, grants information, and to Nicole Lucarelli, the administrative coordinator for the event. Save the Date: Next year’s Department of Pathology Annual Retreat will occur on June 2-4, 2006.

New Faculty Join Pathology

This is the time of year for new recruits to join our Department. A list of new faculty members follows. Please welcome and help them learn the “ropes” of the UPMC complex. A formal introduction and welcome reception will be a part of the Department faculty meeting Sept. 19 at 4:00 p.m. in room 1103 UPMC Conference Center.

Robert M. Austin, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Pathology
Magee Womens Hospital
Research interest – gynecological cytology
Clinical expertise – cervical cytology

Dr. Austin joins us from the Medical University of South Carolina where he was an Associate Clinical Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology from 1990 to the present. His many years of experience in cytology will compliment the service at MWH and serve as the Director of Cytology.

Mamatha Chivukula, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Pathology
Magee Womens Hospital
Research interest – primary peritoneal serous carcinomas
Clinical expertise – cytopathology

Dr. Chivukula finished her fellowship in June 2005 at Magee and accepted the position vacated by Dr. Shirley Chen as Assistant Professor. Dr. Chivukula will focus on surgical pathology with particular interest in cytopathology.

Chang Han, M.D., Ph.D.
Research Assistant Professor
Division of Transplant Pathology
Research interest – liver transplantation

Dr. Han was promoted to Research Assistant Professor after working in Dr. Tong Wu’s laboratory for five years. She will support the R01’s that Dr. Wu recently acquired and continue the newly evolving transplant research required by the grant.

Kyu Yong Jung, DVM, Ph.D.
Visiting Associate Professor
Research interest – molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying the pathogenesis of diabetic nephropathy.

Dr. Jung has joined Dr. Cary Wu’s lab and comes to the University of Pittsburgh from the Department of Pharmacology, Wonkwang University School of Medicine, Korea. He will work in Dr. Wu’s lab investigating the roles of integrins and associated proteins in the regulation of renal cell proliferation, survival and matrix deposition and focus on the molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying the pathogenesis of diabetic nephropathy.

Matthew D. Krasowski, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Division of Clinical Chemistry
Research interest – xenobiotic metabolism and elimination
Clinical expertise – toxicology

Dr. Krasowski has joined the Division of Clinical Chemistry coming from the University of Chicago. He will work towards developing a clinical service in clinical pharmacogenomics that interfaces with the Toxicology/TDM service.

John Ozolek, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Pathology
Children’s Hospital
Research interest – stem cell biology and cellular therapeutics
Clinical expertise – cytology aspiration specimens

Dr. Ozolek has joined Children’s Hospital’s. He just finished a fellowship in Pediatric and Perinatal Pathology in June of 2005 and will work in the area of surgical biopsies and cytology.
FACULTY MEMBERS RECOGNIZED

George Michalopoulos, M.D., Ph.D. reappointed to the NIAAA Board of Scientific Counselors for a five year term; Scientific Advisory Board, Stem Cell Genome Anatomy Project, NIH NIDDK. Member of the “NIH Action Plan for Liver Research: Growth and Carcinogenesis Section”, NIH NIDDK; Member, Gastrointestinal Cell and Molecular Biology Study Section, Center for Scientific Review, J July 2005-June 2008.

Michael Nalesnik, M.D. was one of six faculty members to receive an UPMC ACES Award. The award is given for outstanding clinical performance, commitment to patient care, collaborative spirit and overall dedication to service. Over 50 names were submitted and Dr. Nalesnik was picked along with five others. A banquet will be held in November.

Jeffrey Kant, M.D., Ph.D. is the recipient of the Association of Molecular Pathology Leadership Award.

Alan Wells, M.D., DMS invited to participate in the Nobel-Symposium on Cancer Research June 17-18, 2005 in honor of Eva and George Klein.

KN Rao, Ph.D. Emeritus Professor, invited by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Workers Compensation Lawyers section, to address their meeting on September 22 in Hershey. He will speak on Toxicology for Workman’s Compensation Lawyers.

Joon-seok Song, PhD has accepted the position of post-doctoral research associate in the laboratory of Dr. Erin Rubin Ochoa to study the effects of telomerase on hepatocyte proliferation and transplantation.

NEW RESIDENTS

Orientation for the new residents was held on July 6-7. This included two and a half days of mandatory Graduate Medical Education and Department of Pathology training. Our new fellows and residents are listed here and we hope everyone will take the opportunity to make them feel welcome.

First Year Residents

Ibrahim Batal, M.D.
Marie Dvorakova, M.D.
James Edinger, M.D.
Amer Heider, M.D.
Julia Kofler, M.D.
Alicia Liang, M.D.
Edward Plowey, M.D., Ph.D.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS IN PATHOLOGY

Steven Bruno - Research IV (Raab)
Jessica Candiello - Research III (Hunt)
Benjamin Cieply - Research III (Monga)
Samuel Darko - Research III (Bowser)
Maureen Downey - Research IV (Luo)
Valerian Kagan - Admin II - (Admin.Office)
Xiaoyan Lu - Research III (Liu)
Elizabeth Muir - Research III (Zeevi)
Elizabeth Ritchey - Research III (Michalopoulos)
Regina Skworts - Research III (Dhir)
Beverly Sutkowski - Research V (Raab)
Jacob Tobolewski - Research IV (Oury)
Deborah Villanova - Research I - (Hunt)
Wen Yan - Research II (J. Sepulveda)
Yu Yang - Research III (Michalopoulos)
Gina Zdanowicz - Research III (Zeevi)

NEW CLINICAL FELLOWS

Oydele Adeyi, M.D., Transplant Pathology
Jaffar Alfardan, M.D., Molecular Genetic Pathology
Mummar Aida, M.D., Dermatopathology
Jyoti Balani, M.D., Genitourinary Pathology
Derin Caglar, M.D., Surgical Pathology
Gabriel Calilao, M.D., Gastrointestinal Pathology
Irina Chibisov, M.D., Transfusion Medicine
Amy Davis, M.D., Pediatric Pathology
Jeffrey Fine, M.D., Informatics
Robert Gormley, M.D., Ph.D., Informatics
Raj Hari, M.D., Gyn and Breast Pathology
Aaron Hoschar, M.D., Head and Neck Pathology

H. Peter Kang, M.D., - Mole Genetic Path
R. Karabakhcitsian, M.D., Ph.D. Gyn & Breast
Christine McMahon, M.D., Hematopathology
Olga Navolotskaia, M.D., Cytopathology
Kazuya Onuma, M.D., Ph.D., Gyn & Breast
Eli Piatigorsky, M.D., Cytopathology
Jeffrey Richmond, M.D., Surgical Pathology
C. Nina Roxas, M.D., Surgical Pathology
Rachel Sargent, M.D., Hematopathology
Raja Seethala, M.D., Head and Neck Pathology
Hina Sheikh, M.D., Dermatopathology
Walter Walek, M.D., - Cytopathology

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Pathology Administration would like to take the opportunity to welcome two new employees - Mr. Valerian Kagan and Mr. Joseph Allbaugh.

Val Kagan was hired in July as a new Grants Administrator for our department, working in conjunction with Vida George. Val came to us from the department of Chemistry, and will be working on pathology research submissions and visa processing for staff.

Joe Allbaugh joined us in May as our new Department Accountant in the UPP Finance area, and most recently worked at Conemaugh Hospital. He is replacing Senthil Kathiresan, who moved to the Residency Program, and will be taking on accounting and finance responsibilities including BDT accounts and financial statement duties.

“UPMC ranked among the nation’s best by U.S. News and World report.”

RESIDENT'S PAPER PUBLISHED

Nicole Esposito, M.D., Chief Resident, published an article in the American Journal of Surgical Pathology entitled “Analysis of Allelic Loss as an Adjuvant Tol in Evaluation of Malignancy in Uterine Smooth Muscle Tumors,” Authors include: Esposito NN, Hunt, JL, Bakker, A., ones, MW.