DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The fall of Academic Year 1999-00 finds the Department of Pathology entering a new era with a new administrator and many new staff members. As Susan DeGeronimo-Wild has worked to restructure the Administrative Offices, many other aspects of our Department have changed as well.

1. Service Agreements with Multiple Hospitals. We continue to work contracting with the UPMC affiliated institutions. Most recently we met with McKeesport, Braddock and Bedford hospital administration and hope to solidify our relationship with them soon. This will bring the number of community hospital contracts to nine and we are looking forward to continuing in this regard as UPMC has networked with the area hospitals of Western Pennsylvania.

2. Recruitment of New Faculty. Several new faculty were recruited as of July 1, including Dr. Youhua Liu from Brown University has joined the Cellular and Molecular Pathology Division. Dr. Alan Wells, Vice Chairman of Laboratory Medicine, has joined us from the University of Alabama and Dr. Tong Wu from the Indiana University has joined the Transplant Division. We would also like to welcome two new faculty at Magee, Dr. Catherine Craven and Dr. Dilip Gupta both from the University of Utah, as well as Dr. George Faber, previously a cytopathology fellow at Magee is now and Instructor, Dr. Shiyuan Cheng from the University of California at San Diego has joined PCI.

3. Renovation of space. Renovations on the seventh floor of Scaife Hall have continued to go well and Dr. Wells has moved into the space. Continued renovation of the seventh floor will soon house the Division of Hematopathology and its associated laboratories. Dr. Finkelstein has settled in his newly renovated laboratories and the Mdx renovations are beginning.

4. Quest joint venture. After one year of operation, the Quest Joint Venture has proved itself to be a financially sound venture with more laboratories activities are under future consideration.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

In an effort to improve the administrative support to our faculty and to address several new Departmental responsibilities to UPP and the School of Medicine, the Department of Pathology has recruited several extremely capable individuals since July 1st.

Ms. LaTonya Thompson replaced Bobbi Kostyak as the administrative support for the Department’s education programs, (Residency, Graduate) on October 1st. LaTonya earned her Bachelors degree in Health Services Administration from Slippery Rock University in 1997 and joined us leaving her most recent position as a Customer Service Representative with Prudential Insurance in Philadelphia. LaTonya has eagerly “jumped” into her new responsibilities and already learned a great deal about our faculty and operations. A special
thanks to Jackie Gaines for showing her the ropes!

Julianne Denhardt replaced Angie Peskie as the Department’s Research Accountant effective October 1st. Julianne has a Bachelors degree from the University of California at Berkley. Julianne joins us with ten years of accounting and administrative experience. Most importantly, Julianne brings two years of experience as an Assistant Grants Administrator at WPIC. Julianne will be responsible for all research accounts and reporting and is planning to meet with all investigators to review monthly reports. We have found Julianne to be a talented and “cheery” addition to our office. A special thanks to Angie Peskie for training Julianne and making a smooth transition to her new position within the Division of Neuropathology. Also, congratulations to Angie for finishing her Master of Health Administration degree!

Mr. Brian Rudolph was recruited into a new position, Business Systems Analyst, on November 1st. Brian has earned his Masters in both Health and Business Administration and started his healthcare career as a consultant. In 1994, Brian accepted a position within UPMC Clinical Administration and in 1997 he moved to UPP as a Senior Financial Analyst. His UPP responsibilities included all budgeting, special projects and financial analysis. Brian and I worked side by side on a number of start-up projects for UPP. I know from personal experience how fortunate we are to have his expertise in Pathology. His initial responsibilities will be related to budgeting and accounting; however, once he has become familiar with our business processes, Brian will be responsible for all software solutions, training and implementation both clinical and academic. I believe Brian’s internal knowledge of both UPMC and UPP internal business systems will be a tremendous asset for the newly recruited Controller and the entire administrative staff.

Mr. John Dugan, my replacement as Controller, will officially begin in the Department on December 6th. John received his Bachelors degree from Robert Morris College and is a Certified Public Accountant. He has three years of auditing experience and joins us after over seven years of progressive employment with Health America. John brings strong financial, systems and management skills to his new position as departmental financial Controller. We are counting the days to his arrival!

I would like to thank the entire administrative staff in advance for assisting our new colleagues in their efforts to learn departmental finance and operations. In addition, many thanks to everyone for their patience during this recruitment period and for their willingness to help support many areas that were short-staffed over the last several months. Lastly, please join me in welcoming LaTonia, Julianne, Brian and John!

In order to help clarify some of the changes in staff and responsibilities, I will briefly outline the current administrative positions and office locations.

S-417 BST
John Dugan, Department Controller, will manage all financial operations
Brian Rudolph, Business Systems Analyst, Software conversions, training and reporting, Budgeting and Assistant Accountant
Hal Neal, Facilities Manager and UPP Purchasing
Linda Kraly, University Purchasing and UPP Cash Receipts Processing
Vida George, Grants Coordinator, Research Budgets and Submissions, IRBs
Julianne Denhardt, Research Accountant for all research accounts (non-Neuropathology)
Erin O’Brien, Clerk III, Shared Services and Consult Invoicing and Cash Receipts
Carolyn Nolte, Payroll Coordinator, University and UPP Payroll (faculty and staff)
**OPERATIONS UPDATE**

**EPIC Patient Billing**
The Department of Pathology has successfully converted all patient billing, beginning July of 1999, to the UPP EPIC billing system. **Gail Antonich**, with the help of the CoPath Informatics group, has developed new report batching and monitoring procedures resulting in a marked increase in our monthly patient charges billed. Gail has also been dedicated to close communications with UPP Management to ensure a successful conversion. With all of the issues regarding batching, courier, coding and charge entry resolved, we will begin to work with UPP on cash receipts and accounts receivable management. This includes the paper transfer of all outstanding Medaphis accounts receivable (services prior to July) to a specialized billing collection agency for January 1st.

A special thanks to **Linda Kraly**, because in addition to her new full-time responsibilities for University purchasing, she has maintained the responsibility of sorting our daily patient cash. This is a UPP task in the future; however, during this transition, Linda maintained this work in order to maintain accurate records (and CASH!) during the billing transition. Linda has worked many long hours for several months on this “temporary” responsibility. Thank you again Linda!

**Y2K – Research Laboratories**
Although our computers are all Y2K ready due to the efforts of Fang He, we are attempting to identify any research concerns if the institution needs to rely on auxiliary power. Please contact Hal Neal as soon as possible (648-1926) if you are aware of any critical equipment (ex. freezers) in the BST or Scaife Hall laboratories that are not connected to auxiliary power sources. Generally, outlets connected to the generator power red; however, during the generator test in Scaife Hall last month, we found some “non-red” emergency outlets, as well as some red outlets that were not connected to

the emergency power source. Hal will be contacting all labs to make certain we plan to
maintain critical research functions in case of a temporary loss of power.

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

**DATES TO REMEMBER**
The Department of Pathology will observe the Thanksgiving holiday and will be closed Thursday November 25 and Friday, November 26.

Monday, December 6, 1999, a faculty meeting in room S100 BST will be held and the first compliance session for the next fiscal year. Please plan to attend so that your compliance hours are complete by the deadline date for the upcoming year.

The University Winter Recess for the Administrative Office (as designated by the University academic calendar) will start December 24-January 3, 2000, however UPP staff will be available December 27 and 30 and January 3.

Glassware labs will be closed.

The Photography Lab will be closed throughout the Holiday break.

Annual Department Holiday gathering will be held Saturday, December 11, 1999 from 6:30 – 10:30 p.m. at the Phipps Conservatory.

Monday, January 17, 2000 Martin Luther King Observance, University of Pittsburgh, UPP, and UPMC closed.

Friday, March 10, 2000 Great Americans’ Day University of Pittsburgh closed.

June 2-4, 2000 Department Graduate Program Retreat, Seven Springs

**Email list**
Please find attached to this issue of our newsletter a complete listing of all email addresses for faculty that have been submitted to us to date. If you have an email address change that is not included in this listing, please email Chris to have it updated at szalkuskict@msx.upmc.edu.

**Bulletin Boards**
Several more bulletin boards have been hung in the Biomedical Science Tower 4th floor. This is a reminder that if you wish to hang a poster presentation on one of the boards, please notify Chris and she will coordinate hanging your poster.

**United Way Campaign**
Once again this year’s coordinators are Dr. Strom for faculty and Chris Szalkuski for staff. 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.

**A NOTE FROM PAY ROLL…..**
Due to the holiday in December, please note the payroll deadline dates for this month as follows:

**December 3, noon**

For December paychecks, all hourly employees and work-study timesheets are due in S-417 BST no later than November 22.

November paychecks will be available for pick-up in S-417 BST on November 30.

December paychecks will be available for pick-up in S-417 BST on December 17.

The following have joined the Department over the last several months and we would like to cordially welcome them aboard:
Research Associates
Aaron Bell, Ph.D., (Dr. Michalopoulos)
Dania Deng, M.D. (Dr. Jenkins)
Kelly Jordan-Sciutto, Ph.D. (Dr. Wiley).
Satdarshan Monga, M.D. (Dr. Michalopoulos)
Alexei Pimenov, M.D., Ph.D. (Dr. Vujanovic)
Quiqiang Wang, M.D. (Dr. Rabinovich)
Yongxing Zhang, M.D., Ph.D. (Dr. Cheng)
Yuqing Zhang, M.D., Ph.D. (Dr. Cheng)
Qun Zhao, M.D. (Dr. Meng Feng Li)
Zhenqi-Zhu, Ph.D. (Dr. Salter)

Staff
Jennifer Allen – Research II (Drs. Chu/Oury)
Anke Bakker – Research IV (Dr. Finklestein)
Kimberly Hinton – Research III (Dr. Zeevi)
Carla Johnson – Research III (Dr. De Frances)
Diane Kuharsky – Research III (Dr. Yin)
Karen Mule – Research IV (Dr. Michalopoulos)
Barbara Murray – Research III (Dr. Achim)
Kari Nejak – Research III (Dr. Mars)
Donna Olejniczak – Research IV (Dr. Bahler)
April Protzik – Research II (Dr. Rabin)
Radmila Raikow – Research IV (Dr. Demetris)
Kathleen Sullivan – Research V (Dr. Wells)
Richard Whitehead – Research IV (Dr. Achim)
Yang Ping Yu - Systems Analyst II (Dr. Becich)

I can't believe that this year has gone by so quickly. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kindness and patience during my "training" period. I look forward to working with everyone in the year 2000.

Carolyn Nolte
Payroll Coordinator

Pathology Protocol Review Committee
With the imminent departure of Dr. Joseph Locker, Dr. Anthony Demetris has assumed the responsibilities of the Department’s Protocol Review Committee. The major purpose of this committee is to assist members of the Department of Pathology in preparing and submitting proposals to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for approval. In essence, the task of this committee is to make departmental members aware of possible deficiencies in their submissions and to suggest ways of improving their submissions. Members of the newly organized committee include:

Name                        Address
Robert Bowser, Ph.D.         S-420 BST
Rajiv Dhir, M.D.             A616.2 PUH
Paul Dickman, M.D.           2nd floor CHP
Jeffrey Kant, M.D., Ph.D.    764B Scaife Hall
Greg Naus, M.D.              4607 MWH
Uma Rao, M.D.                A607 MWH
Mohamed Virji, M.D., Ph.D.   5848 Main Tower

With increased access to electronic records, combined with potentially profound implications of genetic testing, there is a heightened awareness of patient confidentiality issues and informed consent. Thus, as many of you know, there has been an increased emphasis on adherence to proper IRM procedures. As pathologist, we have traditionally not been concerned with these issues, but given that genetic testing of paraffin blocks is now a reality, we also have to follow appropriate IRB guidelines, which are available directly from our UPMC IRB at http://www.ofres-hs.upmc.edu/irb/irb.htm.

Please forward protocols to: Anthony J. Demetris, M.D., Director, Division of Transplant Pathology, E1548 BST, 200 Lothrop Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261.

Please expect a 7-10 day turnaround time, during which one or more members of the committee, depending on its complexity, will review your protocol. We look forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Joanne Lasko at 624-6645 or by email at laskojm@msx.upmc.edu.

CMP Graduate Training Program
As I have previously discussed, our department no longer admits graduate students directly into our program but participates in the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Graduate Training Program at the School of Medicine. The Interdisciplinary Graduate Program includes nine individual graduate programs.
All students admitted into the interdisciplinary graduate program take the same coursework and perform laboratory rotations during their first year. The students then select and commit to a particular laboratory during the second year to perform their graduate thesis work. Therefore, we are competing with the other graduate programs for students, and during the past two years were not successful in obtaining new students. However, with the increased efforts of many individuals within the department, I am pleased to announce that the graduate program has six new graduate students that have committed to laboratories within the department for their graduate thesis work. Please join me in welcoming them into our department.

The new students and their thesis mentors are:

- **Eddy Leman** (Robert Getzenberg)
- **Dui Yu** (Reza Zarnegar)
- **Angela Glading** (Alan Wells)
- **Kien Tran** (Alan Wells)
- **Mihaela Avramut** (Cris Achim)
- **Linda Hoffman** (Frank Jenkins)

There are 40 new graduate students that have entered the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Graduate Training Program at the School of Medicine for the Fall, 1999. Any of these students may ask to perform a laboratory rotation within a lab of a member of the graduate faculty. There are currently six students performing rotations within labs in our department. I encourage the faculty to actively communicate with and recruit students into the program. Please help in recruiting these and additional students into our graduate program.

There are two new and exciting events that are being organized that will be tremendous additions to our department. The first is a departmental retreat. The **Retreat will take place on June 2-4, 2000 at nearby Seven Springs Resort. Please mark this on your calendar.** We will bring together both the basic scientists and clinicians together during that weekend, along with the students, residents and fellows. The format will include seminars by faculty and hopefully one outside speaker, in addition to a poster session. The students, residents and fellows will present at the annual Pathology Research Day that will occur during the Saturday morning session. We hope that all faculty and training members of the department will attend this important event, as it represents a great way for the numerous faculty from various divisions to develop new collaborations and foster the training of our students and residents. Additional information will be sent to members of the department concerning this event.

The second new development is the formation of a summer research training program for undergraduate students. This program will provide a stipend for two or three undergraduate students to work in labs within the department. The students will be selected on a competitive basis from an application that must be submitted during the spring. Additional information will be sent to members of the Department concerning this event.

Finally, a brochure describing the graduate program and research interests of the graduate training faculty is available from myself or Jamie Hunsinger (graduate program coordinator). The brochure can also be found on the departmental web site in the PhD graduate training program site (http://path.upmc.edu/cmp/00.htm).

Robert Bowser, Ph.D.
Program Director
Cellular and Molecular Pathology

**RESIDENCY PROGRAM**

The Program Office: Mentioned in the Spring Quarterly but deserving reinforcement is the fact Jamie Hunsinger joined the Department in May as Education Coordinator with responsibilities for Coordinating the Residency Program, Graduate Program, and (most recently) the Fellowship Program. This is a large job for an extremely affable and capable woman, the truth of which you appreciate if you’ve met Jamie! We are most appreciate to Susan Digeronimo for identifying and hiring Latonya Thompson, who brings a high level of ability and cheerfulness helping Jamie. We also have an excellent part-time student, Carolyn Ivanusic. The Program office is in S705 Scaife (phone 648-9699) if you have questions or needs.
Residency Committee: The Program is pleased to announce the appointment to the Residency Committee of Drs. Jeannette Dunn from Shadyside Hospital and Dr. Roy Frye from the Veteran's Administration Medical Center as Associate Directors in the Residency Program to help Dr. Kant and Dr. Sheahan who is Co-Director at Shadyside. Their help in speeding up overall review of and contact with applicants will be appreciated along with their insights into managing and evaluating the Program. On a more downbeat note, Dr. Samuel Yousem recently resigned from the Residency Committee. Sam's longtime experience with the Program and his frank and perceptive comments will be very much missed. Other faculty members joining the Committee this year include Dr. Ron Hamilton, taking over for Cris Achim, and Dr. Robert Kelly, who is working with the Clinical Pathology Chief Residents to coordinate conferences in Laboratory Medicine. Jianzhou Wang is also joining the Residency Committee as a former resident, now a fellow in Pediatric Pathology.

Applicant pool: We have well over 500 applications with many more arriving daily. We expect to take 7-8 residents, including 1 in straight clinical pathology training to continue the track launched last year. The pool of American graduates going into pathology continues to be relatively small. Fortunately, there are a number of excellent international graduates with interests in pathology. A major challenge continues to be recruitment in an NRMP environment filled with irregularities in pathology. The PRODS Ethics Committee will begin to look into violations this year with the hope peer pressure may bring some culprits around. One reason for the diminishing pool of American graduates choosing pathology may be the effect of a 'smear' campaign being conducted by a 'Committee' concerned about jobs in Pathology; this Committee, thought to be one (or very few) individual(s) is disseminating half truths about the current job market in Pathology. In fact, our experience in Pittsburgh and conversations I have had with Program Directors in other academic center programs, indicates the job market in community practice, academia and industry has not been a significant problem for graduates of such programs.

Program Highlights so far this year: In anatomic pathology we have attempted another 'fix' of the feast-famine phenomenon on autopsies by splitting this responsibility between two residents working coordinately so experience is gained over four months rather than two. This rotation also combines exposure to surgical pathology as well as exposure to hematopathology and even general laboratory medicine at the VA. This appears to be working well and hopefully is facilitating timely completion of autopsies. In Laboratory Medicine, in an attempt to have resident coverage of active clinical laboratories at all times, residents doing clinical pathology core training are now scheduled or two months in each of six major areas (Chemistry, Hematology, Immunology, Microbiology, Molecular Diagnostics, Transfusion Medicine/Coagulation) with an additional month of core training in Chemistry, Hematology, Microbiology and Transfusion Medicine the following year. To expand resident consultative activity in Lab Medicine, we have obtained individual beepers whose numbers are keyed to each of these laboratories so physicians, housestaff and support staff will become familiar over time with a single number to call whenever they have a question in one of these areas. The Laboratory Medicine didactic series has been successfully resurrected, and there is a new joint faculty-resident Laboratory Medicine Grand Rounds the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at noon in the large Chemistry Conference Room in CLSI. Look for more changes in our next report. It looks like a major goal for residents starting in July of 2000 will be to have scrubs here for them on day one!

A final note: Faculty and Residents/Fellows, if you are asked to interview an applicant, you generally have been selected for a specific reason (an applicant may have asked to talk with you or share your interests). Please accommodate these requests. The recruiting environment is extremely competitive, and it is imperative we make our best impression on good applicants. We have an excellent training program but we still need to sell ourselves tastefully and aggressively. Also, make time to stop by the Friday afternoon receptions from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in
1104 UPMC Conference Center on the upcoming recruitment days (December 10, January 14, January 21 and 28), a have a few munchies and meet the applicants!

Thanks for your cooperation!

Jeffrey Kant, M.D., Ph.D.,
Director, Residency Program.

**MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY**

Seven employees from the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory of UPMC-Presbyterian recently achieved certification as Laboratory Specialist in Molecular Biology (CLSp(MB)) from the National Credentialing Agency for Laboratory Personnel, (NCA). To be certified, the candidates must meet certain education and experience criteria and must pass a competitive examination.

The seven employees that are now certified Specialists in Molecular Biology are:

- Judee Casciato
- Nancy Crawford
- Yiping Chen
- Zhenyu Chen
- Karen Freilino
- Thomas Kuss
- Leann Stringos

**PATHOLOGY INFORMATICS**

There is a tremendous amount of innovation and experimentation going on in the area of Internet Health. Doctors are testing new ways to connect with their patients, researchers are collaborating on projects, and patients are finding each other and forming communities. These are just some of the ways that this new and powerful tool is transforming health care delivery.

The wellspring for this creative explosion of ideas are the dedicated individuals who dare to visualize what can be done, then go out and create it. These are the stories of real people and their experiences, which have led them to the Internet as a means of extending their reach. During 1999, Intel has identified examples of people who are developing innovative and compelling new ways to use the Internet to advance public health.

**Michael J. Becich, MD, PhD** was chosen with three other individuals to be Intel's first group of Internet Health Heroes (http://www.intel.com/intel/e-health/becich.htm). Awards were presented on October 12 in New York City at the Intel Internet Health Day II. Dr. Becich was described as embracing the Internet as a research tool and as developing 'Telepathology' solutions to distribute critical reports to attending physicians throughout the medical enterprise. A video profile of Dr. Becich can be found at http://www.intel.com/intel/e-health/download.htm.

**APIII 99 CONFERENCE**

The Fourth National Conference on Advancing Pathology Informatics, Imaging, and the Internet (APIII 99) was held on October 14-16, 1999, at the Marriott City Center in Downtown Pittsburgh. Sponoried 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, the conference provided a broad overview of uses for imaging, the Internet and advanced technologies in pathology practice. This year 320 pathologists, lab managers, computer support personnel and vendors attended the conference. The course director was Michael J. Becich, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Pathology and Information Science & Telecommunications, and Director of the Division of Pathology Informatics. The keynote speaker was Steven McGeady, Vice President, Intel Corporation (http://www.intel.com/pressroom/kits/bios/mcgeady.htm) who spoke on Intel's Internet Health Initiative (http://www.intel.com/pressroom/initiatives/ehealth.htm). All plenary sessions and some breakout sessions were recorded using Real Audio/Video. Also, most slide presentations from the plenary and breakout sessions are available on the conference website. Real Audio/Video and slide presentations be accessed at http://apiii.upmc.edu/r-media.htm.
For the first time this year, a Scientific Session was held addressing recent advances and technical innovations in Pathology Informatics (http://apiii.upmc.edu/science.htm). Fourteen of 21 abstracts were accepted (http://apiii.upmc.edu/prog-t.htm) and three were awarded. The winner of this year's scientific session was Rebecca Crowley, MD, for her work on "Creating a Diagnostic Trace: A Methodology to Study Visual Search, Knowledge Representation, and Medical Reasoning in Microscopic Diagnosis" (http://apiii.upmc.edu/sci-win.htm). Rebecca is currently a fellow at the Center for Biomedical Informatics at the University of Pittsburgh.

Additionally, the conference raised $27,000 from exhibitors and APIII faculty to fund 27 CAP Foundation Informatics Travel Awards, which helped to defray registration, travel and hotel costs for residents from US and Canadian training programs to attend the conference (http://apiii.upmc.edu/award.htm).

Other points of interest were:
- 38 E-poster presentations (http://apiii.upmc.edu/e-p-win.htm)
- 20 Exhibitors (http://apiii.upmc.edu/Exh.htm)

All conference information can be accessed from the web site at http://apiii.upmc.edu. APIII 2000 is scheduled for October 26-28, 2000 at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center. We hope to see you there.

Informatics Personnel Update
The Division of Pathology Informatics welcomes its newest employee, Susan Leeds. Susan has a background as a writer and editor. She is currently working on the Pathology Informatics newest website http://prostatehealth.org/ an information resource for patients and health care professionals devoted to diseases of the prostate with an emphasis on prostate cancer prevention, detection and treatment.

DEPARTMENT GRANT UPDATE
Before proceeding with a report on research projects initiated this year, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the Faculty of the Department of Pathology in its research mission. As I recall the singular patience with which so many of you met my sometimes awkward attempts to assist your proposals to completion, I thank you for your sensitivity and understanding, especially during those earliest days of my training when my confidence and abilities were at their lowest.

ACHIM, CRISTIAN
Pittsburgh Foundation Emmerling Award
4/1/99 - 3/31/00
Brain Macrophages and Dementia

BECICH, MICHAEL
CaP CURE  1/1/99 - 12/31/00
Information Therapy for Prostate Cancer Patients:
Building Internet Based Tools for the CaP CURE
Clinical Trials Group

National Institutes of Health (Friedman)
5/1/99 - 4/30/03
IAIMS Implementation - Advancing the Academic
Mission

BOWSER, ROBERT
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, 2/1/99 - 1/31/01
Altered Activity of a Novel Transcription Factor
Complex

John G. Rangos Charitable Fnd, 6/1/99 - 5/30/04
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Research
Contribution

CHU, CHARLEEN
Scaife Foundation, 3/1/99 - 2/28/00
Oxidative Protein Modifications and Parkinson's
Disease
Alzheimer Disease Research Center (DeKosky)
5/1/99 - 4/30/00
Functional Studies of an Alpha-2-Macroglobulin
Mutant Linked to Alzheimer's Disease

Winters Foundation , 8/1/99 - 7/31/00
Glycoxidation and Superoxide Dismutase in Diabetic
Retinopathy
Alzheimers Association, 8/1999 - 7/31/01
Structure and Function of an Alpha-2-Macroglobulin Mutant Linked to Alzheimer's Disease

American Parkinson Disease Association
9/1/99 - 8/31/02
Oxidative Stress and Cell Signaling in Parkinsonian Diseases

National Parkinsons Foundation, 10/1/99 - 9/30/00
Neurotrophic Factor Signaling in Parkinsonian Disorders

DALLASTA, LINDA
National Institutes of Health, 9/2/99 - 9/1/01
Immunological Mechanisms of Tight Junction Disruption in HIV

DHIR, RAJIV
Gene Logic, Inc., 3/1/99 - 2/29/02
Gene Logic Research Agreement

HARRISON, JAMES
NIH (Lowe) 9/30/99 - 9/29/01
Expanded Deployment, Enhancement and Evaluation of Image Engine Multimedia Patient Record System

JORDAN-SCIUTTO
National Institutes of Health (Zigmond) 6/30/99 - 6/29/00
Training in the Neurobiology of Psychiatric Disorders

LIU, YOUHUA
National Institutes of Health, 3/1/99 - 2/29/04
HGF Receptor Gene Regulation and Renal Growth (K02)

NALESNIK, MICHAEL
Epidemiology Resources, Inc, 2/1/99 - 1/31/02
A Case-Control Study of Severe Post Transplant Lymphoproliferative Disorders in Renal Transplant Patients

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (Green) 3/1/99 - 2/28/00
Service Agreement between Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (CHP) & University of Pittsburgh (UP) under the Grant "Medimmune: Randomized Trial of Intravenous Cytogam"

OURY, TIM
Scaife Foundation, 3/1/99 - 2/29/00
Transgenic Models of Antioxidant Protection in Parkinsonian Neurotoxicity

American Lung Association, 7/1/99 - 6/30/01
Extracellular Superoxide Dismutase in Pulmonary Fibrosis

UP Competitive Medical Research Fund, 7/1/99 - 6/30/00
Pulmonary Fibrosis: Involvement of Extracellular Oxidants and Antioxidants

Pittsburgh Foundation, 8/15/99 - 8/14/00
Glycation of Extracellular Superoxide Dismutase in Diabetes: Implications for Diabetes-Related Vascular Disease

STROM, STEPHEN
Pharmacia & Upjohn, 1/1/99 - 6/30/99
Effect of Test Compounds on CYP3A Activity & Enzyme Protein in Primary Cultures of Human Hepatocytes

National Institutes of Health (Kresina) 1/1/99 - 12/31/04
Subcontract with the University of Minnesota, Dr. Sharp, for the Liver Tissue Procurement and Distribution System (LTPADS)

Eli Lilly Co 2/1/99 - 1/31/01
In Vitro and In Vivo Investigations of Hepatitis C
BioWhittaker 3/1/99 - 2/29/00
Cryopreservation of Human Hepatocytes

Chiron, 4/1/99 - 3/31/00
Chiron Research Agreement

WELLS, ALAN
National Institutes of Health, 7/1/96 - 6/30/00
Fibroblast Cell Motility in Wound Healing
VA Merit Award, 10/1/97 – 9/30/01
Regulation of Prostate Cancer Progression by EGF Receptor
VA/DOD, 4/1/98 – 3/31/01
Effects of Matrix-Cell Interactions on EGFR-Mediated Wound Healing
ALTS Study, 10/1/96 – 9/30/00
Value of HPV Detection in Cervical Specimens
National Science Foundation, 9/1/96 – 8/31/99
Development of a Minimal Synthetic Extracellular Matrix which Stimulates Cell Migration
National Institutes of Health (Griffith/MIT) 9/1/96 – 9/31/00
EGF Receptor-Mediated Cell Migration

WILEY, CLAYTON
National Institutes of Health, 7/15/99 - 6/30/04
Midcareer Investigator Award, Clayton Wiley

National Institutes of Health, 8/10/99 - 6/30/02
Medical Scientist Training Program

YIN, XIAO-MING
UP Competitive Medical Research Fund
7/1/99 - 6/30/00
Role of Bid, A Death Agonist, in Fas/TNF-R1 Initiated Hepatocyte Apoptosis

ZEEVI, ADRIANA
National Institutes of Health, 9/30/99 - 8/31/03
Impact of Aerosol Cyclosporine in Lung Transplantation

National Institutes of Health (Burckart)
3/15/99 - 2/28/02
P-Glycoprotein in Lung Allografts

For those of you looking for useful websites, here are some websites that might help you in your search for Funding Opportunities:

The NIH Modular grants information website:
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/modular/modular.htm

The website for downloading NIH forms:
http://forms.psc.gov/phsforms.htm

The Federal Commons (clearing house for federally-funded projects) database (CRISP) website:
http://commons.cit.nih.gov/crisp/owa/CRISP.Generate_Ticket

The TRAM website:
http://tram.east.asu.edu/fund/index.html

The Society of Research Administrators website:
http://sra.rams.com
Visit the Society for Research Administrators website and review "An Open Letter on Cooperation in R&D Projects with the European Union". This letter provides information and a step-by-step guide on new collaborative research opportunities available to American researchers under the European Union's Fifth Framework Programme of Research and Development, 1999-2000. Other sites dealing with this collaboration:

http://www.cordis.lu

Some websites offered by the Office of Research, Health Sciences include:

Requests for Applications:
http://www.ofres-hs.upmc.edu/fundopps/rfa.html

Program Announcements:
http://www.ofres-hs.upmc.edu/fundopps/pa.html

Requests for Proposals:
http://www.ofres-hs.upmc.edu/fundopps/rfp.html

Fellowship opportunities:
http://www.ofres-hs.upmc.edu/fundopps/fellowships.html

The United States Army Medical Research (Department of Defense) website:
http://cdmrp.army.mil/

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Fastlane (electronic submission) website:
https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/

The American Cancer Society website:
http://www.cancer.org/

The Searle Scholars Program website:
http://searle.bio.jhu.edu/

Leukemia Society of America website:
http://www.leukemia.org/docs/med_res_edu/grant_info.html

The American Lung Association website:
http://www.lungusa.org/

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund website:
http://www.bwfund.org/career_development.htm

For those of you planning to submit to NIH soon, or have been asked to supply Modular biosketches to other departments, the following website will be of particular interest:

The NIH Modular grants information website:
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/modular/modular.htm

• As of June 1999, applications with indirect costs $250,000 or less must be submitted in MODULAR format. Proposals with indirect costs over $250,000 will be submitted in the traditional manner.
• MODULAR budgets refer to those whose direct costs are submitted in $25,000 increments rather than specific amounts.
• Keep in mind that if MODULAR budgets may be increased only in $25,000 modules, NIH cuts also will be in $25,000 increments.
• Theoretically, the use of MODULAR budgets will relieve the reviewers of budgetary concerns so that they may concentrate on the scientific merits of your proposal.
• However, in order to accomplish a MODULAR budget, we will first need to compile a traditional budget, from which will be derived indirect costs. The MODULAR budget will be created from this.
• A budget justification, the sole budgetary information sent other than the checklist page, is to be in narrative form and should truly justify the expenses proposed. You will notice that the examples given by the Office of Research and NIH are rather sparse. Although NIH contacts insist the justification is the selling point for your numbers, keeping it Brief seems to be the preferred format.
• Because it still is too early for any MODULAR submissions to be funded, the Office of Research can offer little guidance in the matter of whether it is better to inflate your MODULAR budget in anticipation of possible cuts, or not. Once your budget is completed, we can discuss the most appropriate (knowing what we know) MODULAR distribution for your needs.

MODULAR applications have changed also in several other respects:

• MODULAR Biosketches are now three-page documents.
• Traditional Other Support pages are not included in the submission. Other support IS INCLUDED IN THE BIOSKETCH under the category "Research Projects Ongoing or Completed in the Last Three Years".
• In order to accommodate the three-page restriction, only those publications which specifically relate to the proposed research should be included.

Please direct any questions you may have on this or other topics of interest to:

Vida George, Grants Administrator
Department of Pathology
S-417 Biomedical Science Tower
PH: (412) 648-9474
FX: (412) 648-1916
EM: georgev@msx.upmc.edu

MAUD L. MENTEN was inducted posthumously to the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame in October of 1998. The award for this honor was given to Dr. Ronald Jaffe and is on display in the Menten Conference room at Children’s Hospital.

SEMINAR SERIES (in room 1104 UPMC Conference center at 12 noon unless otherwise stated)

Wednesday, December 1
"When right goes wrong: Molecular genetics of human laterality defects"
Brett Casey, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Pathology  
Department of Pathology  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Houston, Texas

Wednesday, December 8  
"Imprinting evolution and cancer susceptibility"  
Randy L. Jirtle, Ph.D.  
Professor of Radiology, Oncology and Pathology  
Duke University Medical Center  
Durham, NC

Wednesday, December 15  
"Alzheimer's disease and model systems"  
Donald L. Price, M.D.  
Professor of Pathology, Neurology and Neurosciences  
Department of Pathology  
Johns Hopkins University  
Baltimore, MD

Wednesday, January 5, 2000  
“Liver regeneration”  
George K. Michalopoulos, M.D., Ph.D.  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Pathology

Wednesday, January 12  
Title: TBA  
Olivera J. Finn, Ph.D.  
Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics and Biochemistry  
Director, Immunology Program

Wednesday, January 19  
Conference Center  
"Genetic susceptibility of liver and lung cancer using animal models"  
Linda Sargent, Ph.D.  
Project Leader  
Toxicology and Molecular Biology Branch  
National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health  
Morgantown, WV

Wednesday, February 2, 4:00 p.m. Lecture Room 5 Scaife Hall  
Annual Maud L. Menten Lecture  
"Reconstructing the brain with stem cells"  
Ron D.G. McKay, Ph.D.  
Laboratory of Molecular Biology

NINDS  
Bethesda, MD

Wednesday, February 9  
Kenneth C. William, Jr., Ph.D.  
“Perivascular macrophage infection in the CNS: Implications for the neuropathogenesis of AIDS”  
Instructor, Department of Pathology  
Harvard Medical School  
New England Regional Primate Research Center  
Southborough, MA

Wednesday, February 23  
Title: TBA  
James M. Crawford, M.D., Ph.D.  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Pathology  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL

Wednesday, March 1  
"Mapping and sequencing a human chromosome: How and why?"  
Eric D. Green, M.D., Ph.D.  
Chief, Genome Technology Branch  
National Human Genome Research Institute  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, MD

Wednesday, March 8  
"Mechanisms of hoxgene regulation by the mixed lineage leukemia protein"  
Jay L. Hess, M.D., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
Director of Hematopathology  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA

Wednesday, March 15  
"Activation of latent TGF-β by thrombospondin-1: mechanisms and physiology"  
Joanne E. Murphy-Ullrich, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Pathology  
Department of Pathology  
University of Alabama  
Birmingham, AL
Wednesday, March 22
Title: TBA
Douglas A. Lauffenburger
Professor of Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering
Co-Director, Division of Bioengineering and Environmental health
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The deadline date for the next Pathology Quarterly is February 15, 2000. Please email your newsworthy items to szalkuskict@msx.upmc.edu. Thanks!

FACULTY and TRAINEE HIGHLIGHTS

Cris Achim, M.D., Ph.D., recently promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Congratulations!

David Baler, M.D. gave a talk entitled “Salivary gland MALT lymphoma VH genes show frequent use of V1-69 and restricted DCR3 structures “ at a Keystone Symposium on B Lymphocyte Biology Disease, February 19, 1999.

Michael Becich, M.D., Ph.D.
Distinguished Visiting Professor of Pathology - Johns Hopkins University, 1999
Intel Internet Health Hero, 1999

Other Publications
"Proposal links patients, Net data - Idea is to make reports, sites more useful to ill" Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
L&H announces new contracts for its speech solutions with leading healthcare institutions and vendors" Business Wire, Story # 00077. July 21, 1999

Speaking Engagements


"Information Technology in Pathology (Pathology Informatics)", An invited presentation to the Southeastern Association of Pathology Chairs - The Homestead, Hot Springs, VA, September 25, 1999.

"The Role of Tissue Banking and Pathology Informatics in the Molecular Classification of Diseases", MD Anderson Cancer Center, Dept of Pathology, Houston, TX., July 23, 1999

"Towards the Design of a 'Next Generation' Pathology report: A Patient Oriented, WWW-based Report", MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Pathology, Houston, TX.

“Introduction and Orientation to Pathology Informatics", 2nd Year Residents, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Pathology, Pittsburgh, PA, July 6, 1999.

"Future of Pathology Informatics: Emerging Models for Interactive Health Care and the Molecular Classification of Disease", Johns Hopkins Medical Institutes, Department of Pathology, Baltimore, MD, June 17, 1999.

"Information Therapy and the Practice of
Pathology", 17th Annual Symposium on Automated Information Management in the Clinical Laboratory (AIMCL), Ann Arbor, MI. May 27, 1999


**Linda Dallasta, M.D., Ph.D.** gave a platform presentation at the ASNT meeting in Florida and also received a travel award to the meeting also. Dr. Dallasta was awarded a F32 fellowship for two years beginning June, 1999.

**Allen Gao, Ph.D.,** has transferred his appointment to the Urology Department.

**Robert Getzenberg, Ph.D.** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Congratulations! He also is transferring his appointment to the Urology Department and will continue to have a secondary appointment in Pathology.

**Ronald L. Hamilton, M.D.** attended the Foundation IPSEN Conference: Attractions fatales au coeur des neurones (Fatal attractions within neurons: Intracytoplasmic protein accumulations in Alzheimer’s Disease and related neurodegenerative diseases) which took place in Paris, France. He presented data from his studies in neurodegenerative diseases as a poster: “Numerous widespread a-synuclein-positive thread-like processes characterize demetia with lewy bodies.”

**Sharon Harold, Ph.D.** gave a platform presentation at the FASEB meeting in DC.

**Amal Kanbour-Shakir, M.D.**
Promoted to Professor of Pathology, Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences effective October 1, 1999. Congratulations!

**Chris Lee and Parmatmua Greeley,** medical students, received the American Society of Clinical Pathologists’ Medical Student Pathology Fellowship in community hospitals.

**Wendy Mars, Ph.D.** presented posters at the AACR meeting April 10-14. Mars, WM, Schoedel KE, West DD, Tyner VZ and Michalopoulos GK. A study of matrix and matrix proteases in the fibroalamellar variant of hepatocellular carcinomas; and Muto O, Mars WM and Michalopoulos GK, A role for tissue-type plasminogen activator in activating hepatocyte growth factor in mice.

Presented at the Experimental Biology meeting April 17-21: Mars, WM, Muto O, Stolz DB and Michalopoulos GK, entitled: Liver regeneration in mice harboring deletions of selected members of the plasminogen activator system.

**Julio Martinez, M.D.**
Received an Honorary Professor Award from the University Central del Este (UCE), Dominican Republic and delivered the commencement address to 156 UCE graduates February 19.

Was the keynote speaker at the Centro Medico of UCE in Santo Domingo and at the military hospital of the Dominican Air Force February 23 and 27 respectively. He also delivered 15 lectures to UCE medical students in San Pedro de Macoris and met with Chicago Cubs baseball star Sammy Sosa, a resident of the Dominican Republic.

Was an invited professor at the University of Granada, Spain, lecturing on “Hepatic Encephalopathy,” “Course Actualization in Hepatobiliary Surgery,” April 29-30, 1999.

Gave a lecture at the “V course of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology,” sponsored by the UNESCO and University of Granada, Spain.

"The past, the present and future of free-living ameobic infections,” Visiting professor at the Universidad San Pablo CEU in Marid, Faculty of Experimental Sciences and Pharmacy, Parasitology
Department, Capus de Monte Principe, October 7, 1999.


Lectured to 3000 Cuban and American physicians attending the XV International Cuban Medical Congress in Exile in Miami, FL, June 27-July 4, 1999.

Received recognition from the Pittsburgh Council for International Visitors and the US Information Agency for helping in the Program Community Connections Donets Ukraine Visitors.

Delivered 15 lectures at the International Postgraduate Seminar entitled “Modern methods in Neurosurgery” while he was a visiting professor at the Free University of Berlin (Germany), Klinikum Benjamin Franklin, Abteilung fur Neurochirurgisch, from August 28 to September 18, 1999.

Satdarshan P.S. Monga, M.D. work presented at the President Plenary talk at the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease, Dallas TX. “Essential cooperative function of TGF-Beta signaling molecules smad2/3 for liver formation can be rescued by HGF” and a poster presentation “Disruption of TGF-Beta signaling by smad2, smad3 and ELF spectrins in primary biliary cirrhosis.”

Manju Nath, M.D. was appointed Medical Director of Cytology at MWH effective January 1, 1999.

Larry Nichols, M.D. was taped by WPXI regarding a study he published in the American Journal of Clinical Pathology in August, 1998. The article itself appeared in the May issue of Mens Health Magazine and is available on the web at http://abcnews.go.com/sections/living/MensHealth/menshealth.html.

Parmjeet S Randhawa, M.D.
"BK, CMV, and Epstein-Barr virus infections in the allograft kidney." Banff Conference on Allograft Pathology, Banff, Alberta, Canada, June 7-12, 1999.

"The clinical significance of arteriolitis in the allograft kidney." Banff Conference on Allograft Pathology, Banff, Alberta, Canada, June 7-12, 1999.

"Acute renal allograft rejection with severe tubulitis (Banff 1997 grade IB).” Banff Conference on Allograft Pathology, Banff, Alberta, Canada, June 7-12, 1999.


Dr. Runge also had a paper published in Biochemical Biophysical Research Communications entitled “Expression of the human hepatocyte growth factor cDNA in primary cultures of rat hepatocytes,” coauthored by William C. Bower, Sikander Katyal, Dieter Runge, Valerie Suski and George K. Michalopoulos.

Dr. Runge presented a poster at the Experimental...
Biology meeting in Washington DC entitled “Association of MET with STAT1, 3 and 5 in cultures of human hepatocytes” co-authored by Dieter Runge, David Thomas, Kim A Lubecki, Kenneth Dorko, James Esplen, Steven C. Strom and George K. Michalopoulos.

Dr. Runge has accepted a faculty position as the Assistant Director of the Department of Environmental Toxicology at Martin Luther University in Halle/Saale, Germany.

**Will Stevenson**, a second year medical student, received the American Society of Clinical Pathologists’ Award for Academic Excellence and Achievement.


Dr. Swerdlow was involved with three poster presentations at the USCAP meeting in March which included: Ives Aguilera, N.S., Swerdlow, S.H., Andrliko, J.W., Abbondanzo, S.L., Lymphoplasmacytoid lymphoma/immunocytoma: a clinicopathologic study of 20 cases.


**Giuliana Trucco, M.D.** has been appointed Director of Clinical Chemistry at Magee Womens Hospital effective July 1, 1999.

**Reza Zarnegar, Ph.D.**, Promoted to Professor of Pathology effective October 1, 1999. Congratulations!

**Adriana Zeevi, Ph.D.** American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Diplomate Certification. Congratulations!

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**PUBLICATIONS**


Randhawa, P.S., Saad, R.S., Jordan, M., Scantlebury V., Vivas, C., Shapiroy R. Clinical significance of...


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Thought for the day by Clark Kerr 1911-:

“The university has become the multiversity and the nature of the presidency has followed this change... The president of the multiversity is leader, educator, wielder or power, pump: he is also officeholder, caretaker, inheritor, consensus seeker, persuader, bottleneck. But he is mostly a mediator. From: The Uses of the University (The Godkin lectures at Harvard University, 1963.)