In Memory

John C.E. Kaufmann, Professor Emeritus University of Western Ontario - It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of John Kaufmann, aged 88, due to respiratory failure on Saturday February 2, 2013 at University Hospital, London, Ontario. John was much admired and deeply loved by his children Michele, Carol, and Pierre, his grandchildren Claudia, Martin, Thandi, Jenna, Kaila, and Justine, his five great grandchildren, his sister Marguerite, and niece and nephews Jean, Julienne, and Marcus. Predeceased in 2010 by his beloved wife Suzanne, John will be deeply missed by all who shared his humour, self-discipline, inquiring mind, and attentiveness. John was born in Umtata, South Africa in 1924 and graduated from the University of Cape Town where he studied medicine and specialized in Neuropathology. John immigrated to Canada in the early 1970’s when he joined the neuroscience medical team at the University of Western Ontario. A private family cremation took place at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, London. The family wishes to acknowledge the tender and loving care provided by his caregivers Juliana and Jetty, and the staff at University Hospital.

Staff at the Owen Sound hospital are mourning a popular and well-liked pathologist, Dr. Brian Rudrick. Dr. Rudrick died March 17, 2013 of a massive stroke at the age of 53. “He was very approachable and that meant he had a very wide circle of hospital friends.” “He was really well known to the staff, not just in the lab.” Dr. Rudrick’s other colleague in the three-man department, Dr. Ardit Deliallisi, remembered Dr. Rudrick as someone who loved both the theoretical and practical aspects of pathology. He said the three of them shared information and opinions about their cases all the time.
Farewell

Michael Graves joined the Department of Pathology at Victoria Hospital in 1981. In recognition of his experience, administrative abilities and interpersonal skills, he was appointed the Pathology Coordinator for the Autopsy, Grossing and Specimen Receiving Services at London Health Sciences Centre in 2000. At that time, he played a key role in the consolidation of these services during the merger of the three London hospital departments of Pathology. He was committed to excellent service in a safe work environment and was awarded the LHSC Employee Recognition Award. He was pivotal in the development of the practical training year for the Pathologists’ Assistant Masters of Science program offered by the Department of Pathology, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. For his efforts, Mike was honored with Lloyd A. Kennedy Pathologists’ Assistant Award given by the Canadian Association of Pathologists. Mike was an ambassador for the Department and will be greatly missed.

Cecile Klerks accepted a full time position as a Community Relations Administrative Assistant at Children’s Health Foundation in London. This is a terrific opportunity for Cecile, and she was the successful applicant from a pool of more than 100. Cecile’s last day in the department was April 30th. We will truly miss her help and support in the administration office, but most of all her smile, her friendly nature and her very lovely personality.

Research Based Program Updates:

Congratulations to Di Chen, PhD Candidate, Supervisor Dr. Wei-Ping Min, completed her PhD Examination “Targeted siRNA Delivery Methods for RNAi-Based Therapies

The URL for your publication is as follows: http://ir.lib.uwo.ca/etd/1245

Awards

Congratulations to Dr. Zia A. Khan - recipient of the Dean’s Award of Excellence for Faculty. Dr. Khan received his award at the Celebration of Excellence on May 22, 2013.
Awards

Dr. Paul Adams has been nominated for Fellowship via Distinction of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. Fellowship via Distinction is awarded to individuals of distinction or eminence in their fields who the College wishes to recognize for their outstanding achievement.

A new app developed by Western University students Steve Tallieu and Bhavin Prajapati may be just what the doctor ordered. The Android smartphone app uses quick and easy linkages to reliable sources of information and simple, handy tools to encourage healthy living in a positive way.

Called 4-MiHealth, it’s modeled after a Michigan public health policy document called the “4x4,” which encourages Michiganders to practice four healthy behaviours (exercise, healthy eating, getting routine health screenings and avoiding tobacco) and to keep a close eye on four health measures (blood glucose, cholesterol, blood pressure and Body Mass Index or BMI).

The development team also forms up the roster of a health information management class taught by Dr. Candace Gibson. It is a crossover class that includes students majoring in software engineering and health information sciences programs at both the undergrad and graduate level.

Wahab A. Khan (PhD candidate, supervisor Dr. Joan Knoll) is the recipient of the Graduate Thesis Research Award Fund for the 2012-2013 academic year.

The students below have been awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship which is for one full year in the amount of $15000.00. They are;

Phaedra Henley, Co-Supervisors
Wahab Khan, Supervisor
Michael Ruiz, Supervisor

Drs. Jack Bend and Charlie Trick
Dr. Joan Knoll
Dr. Subrata Chakrabarti
Pathology Annual Research Day was held on Friday, April 26. Our thanks go to the Research Day organizing committee for a very successful event which showcased the research efforts of all the trainees in our department.

Dr. Zia A. Khan (Basic Science faculty)
Dr. Martin Duennwald (Basic Science faculty)
Dr. Nancy G. Chan (Clinical faculty)
Dr. Manal Gabril (Clinical faculty)
Dr. Allison Osmond (Pathology Resident)
Matthew Riopel (Pathology Graduate Student)
Michael Ruiz (Pathology Graduate Student)
Susan Stewart (Pathology Staff)
Kathilyn Allewell (Pathology Staff)

Congratulations to our Pathology Research Day award winners:

Chair’s Award for the Best Clinical Science Presentation
Dr. Murad Alturkustani

Dr. M. Daria Haust Award For Best Presentation By A Graduate Student
Emily Keats, PhD Candidate

Best Clinical Science Poster Presentation
Dr. Cady Pocrnich
Annual Pathology Research Day 2013

Best Basic Science Poster Presentation Award
Di Chen, PhD Candidate

Best Basic/Clinical Science Collaborative Poster Presentation Award
Alex Pavlosky, MSc Candidate

Best Undergraduate Basic Science Poster Presentation Award
Jina Kum, BMSc Candidate

Dr. Cameron Wallace Graduate Student Award In Pathology
Matthew Riopel, PhD Candidate
Grants

Congratulations to Dr. Martin Duennwald. His application to the Bernice Ramsay Discovery Grant Program was successful and recommended for $50,000. Dr. Duennwald in collaboration with Dr. Mike Strong is studying RNA metabolism in Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Publications


Presentations, Posters & Abstracts


Rokhsana Mortuza. Abstract, entitled “miR-195 regulate accelerated endothelial aging in diabetes through SIRT1”, was accepted for platform presentation at the 73rd American Diabetes Association meeting, Chicago, IL to be held on June 21-25, 2013. Supervisor: Subrata Chakrabarti.


Charitable and Community Works

Faculty

Bertha Garcia: volunteer for the Peruvian American Medical Society (PAMS), both as a member of the Medical Missions Group (humanitarian work) and as a member of the education committee

Rob Hammond: Hockey coach and trainer (North London), Baseball coach (North London), Executive member, Docs on Ice charitable provincial hockey tournaments, Co-chair, 2015 Docs on Ice tournament (London) to benefit the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada.

Bret Wehrli: Coach, Nor’West Soccer Club of London for many years, several teams, member of the executive at Nor’West, Nor’West London’s representative to the London and District Youth Soccer League. Trainer for son’s hockey team, the North London Nationals.
Charitable and Community Works

Staff

**Cheryl Campbell**: volunteer with Golden Opportunity Assistance Dogs

**Mair Hughes**: current member of Schulich Medicine & Dentistry’s Bust-a-Move team, member of the SoHo (South of Horton) Community Group, past member of SoHo Executive - I designed the website (www.soholondon.ca) and maintained the membership database.

**Linda Jackson**: Coaches in the South Western Indoor soccer league for past 4 years. Also coaches the 5 years old kids in Kickeroos. Involved with St. Sebastian parent school council for past 5 years (including being fundraiser chair, secretary). For the past 2 years she has volunteered the Labour Day weekend at the annual London United Henderson soccer tournament, last year was one of the scorekeepers. This year she will be the girls convenor.

Events

Bust-a-Move came to London April 6 2013. The Schulich Medicine & Dentistry “Breast for Success” Team raised over $30,000!!! There were close to 400 participants at the convention centre taking part in fitness classes from 8:30 to 3:30, with the final session led by Richard Simmons!

Thank you so very much to all of you who have pledged and supported me - my personal fundraising total just topped $1,600! Thank you again for all your support, Mair.
Events

Women with Vision is a new fundraiser created by Cindy ML Hutnik MD, PhD, professor from the Departments of Ophthalmology & Pathology. The fundraiser is designed to specifically fund future vision science researchers. It gives further opportunities for MSc and PhD students. charity event that will take place on Thursday, June 6th in London. www.womenwithvisionlondon.com.

Other News

On May 31 the department cleaned out old chemicals. seven drums and 10 pails of chemicals were removed from some of the 4th floor labs. This is a reminder for everyone to check their chemical inventory regularly and dispose of waste regularly. Old bottles get brittle and will crack and fall apart if kept too long. Thanks to everyone for taking the time to clean out their labs.
With the world abuzz after Angelina Jolie had her breasts removed to avoid cancer, more London women want to get checked for the gene defects that made the actor so vulnerable. “There have been more inquiries than usual,” said Dr. Peter Ainsworth, director of the molecular diagnostic laboratory at the London Health Sciences Centre. “It certainly appears to have increased the hum about (genetic screening).” Ainsworth should know. He’s been London’s pioneer for such screening, his team evaluating results for about 4,000 women since he started in 1997 — back then, the testing was considered by Ontario to be experimental and was funded instead by Americans to further research.

It took a London woman to change that: In 1999, Fiona Webster challenged OHIP and won. Jolie may be the biggest trailblazer since after she wrote last week of her experiences for The New York Times. She wanted to reassure her children she will not die young from cancer, like her mother did at 56. Her declaration raised awareness and reduced stigma, Ainsworth said. “It was very brave of her,” he said this week. His lab tests for defects in a gene that makes a protein meant to repair DNA that might otherwise lead to uncontrollable growth.

Those whose medical history or family history elevate their risk for cancer are eligible with the tests paid for by OHIP — the $1,600 tests are generally made available for women with at least a 7% elevated risk of breast or ovarian cancers. Of those tested, about one in eight are found with the defects, called BRCA-1 and BRCA-2. For those who already have cancer, the result can shape how they are treated. For those with no cancer yet, the tests allows them to quantify the risk. “It’s (sometimes) difficult to get screened because it leads to tougher decisions,” he said. “People are frightened.” Many of the women screened are between ages 35 and 40, but some are in their 20s — a 24-year-old was in this week. Women who think their risk is elevated should consult their family doctor, who can help make referrals. It takes about two months to be seen in the clinic and another month for the results to be developed and analyzed in the lab. Urgent cases are handled more quickly.
Other News

Remember to keep the
good news items coming!

Please send your submission to Susan Stewart
susan.stewart@schulich.uwo.ca
Department of Pathology
Schulich School of
Medicine & Dentistry Western University