

January 2010  
 Issue 1 2010

## Message from Dr. Garcia



Bertha Garcia, MD  
 Medical Leader  
 Pathology and Laboratory  
 Medicine Program  
 Chair/Chief of Pathology

On Jan 25, 2010, the selection process to determine my successor was launched. Approximately 18 months before the end of my second term as Chair/Chief of Pathology and Lab Medicine, a UWO and London hospitals joint selection committee has been struck. The composition of the committee is broad and includes 4 elected departmental members, members of the UWO and Hospital communities at large, key authorities both all institutions and 4 elected extra-departmental faculty.

As part of this process, the department has submitted a self assessment document which included the departmental performance and SWOT analysis since the last review (2005). I would like to take this opportunity to thank all academic leaders for their prompt and excellent submissions. This document is extremely important in a number of ways: it helps set the stage for an external review that will take place in the early spring and also helps the committee develop the job description of my successor. I expect that many of you will have the opportunity to help shape the recruitment process of our next Chair/Chief.

Although it may seem a lengthy process, the expectation is that once the external review is completed and the job description finalized, there will be a call for applications with interviewing of applicants sometime in the fall of 2010. My term ends on June 30, 2011.

I look with great anticipation to this process as we continue to grow as a highly respected and desirable program and look forward working with my successor.

## Welcome

We welcome **Drs. Chris Howlett** and **Aaron Haig** as full-time clinical pathologists and Assistant Professors effective January 1, 2010. Both completed residency training with us.

## Congratulation

Congratulations go to **Dr. Elena Tugaleva** on her success at the Forensic Pathology Fellowship exams.

## Congratulation Cont.

We congratulate **Dr. Jeremy Parfitt** and Christine on their new baby girl Olivia, born January 6, 2010.

## Residency Program Updates

Congratulations go to **Drs. Fahd Al-Sufiani** and **Murad Alturkustani** for excellent case presentation at the CANP meeting and also to

## Residency Program Updates Cont.

**Dr. Joanne Sy**, visiting observer, for winning the Mary Tom Award for best presentation in clinical neuropathology by a trainee.

CaRMS applicants will be interviewed during the week of February 8-12. We anticipate interviewing 25 applicants this year for the Anatomical Pathology program.

## Graduate Student Updates

September was busy with the new students getting comfortable in their labs and courses and applying for National and Provincial Scholarships. We would like to wish "good luck" to everyone who applied. We would like to extend congratulations to **Jennifer Mutrie**, MSc Candidate (Supervisors; Drs. Ann Chambers and Alan Tuck) for being awarded a CIHR-CGS Banting & Best Master's Award for 2009-2010.

October was an extremely rewarding experience for our Graduate Program and Department. Our Course and Practicum Based Graduate Program (Pathologists' Assistant) is in the process of being accredited by NAACLS (National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences) and reviewers came for a site visit on October 5th & 6th. The visit was very successful and we will be receiving notification in the spring of our being accepted. A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the process.

In November the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry had a Graduate Open House, overall it was a great day!! We had a lot of interest in our programs. We would like to thank the students and faculty who volunteered their time.

We have three new students beginning in the Winter Term. We would like to extend a warm welcome to:

**Ms. Jessica Dubrick**, MSc Candidate with **Dr. Rennian Wang**

**Mr. Leo Siu**, PhD Candidate with **Dr. W.P. Min**

**Mr. Ilia Tikhomirov**, PhD Candidate (Part-time) with **Dr. Jim Koropatnick**

Currently, we have 31 Full-time/Part-time MSc/PhD Students, 3 Part-time MSc - Oral Maxiofacial Graduate Students and 8 Full-time Pathologists' Assistants Students.

## Undergraduate Student Updates

A web-based mandatory skin module has been developed for clinical clerks. This multi-disciplinary case based teaching module was developed by **Dr. Mariamma Joseph** and Tiffany Kwok an undergraduate student, utilizing expertise from a multi-disciplinary group of specialists (dermatologists, pathologist, plastic surgeon and pediatrician) from UWO. This teaching module is posted in webCT for student self directed learning, under family medicine year 3 block. Funding was obtained from the Instructional Innovation & Development fund, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, UWO.

## Awards

**Congratulations go to the following faculty members who all received a USC Teaching Honour Roll Award of Excellence (2008-2009). They are Drs. Candace Gibson, Aaron Haig, Kamilia Rizkalla, David Driman, Madeleine Moussa and Ian Welch. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to undergraduate teaching in Pathology and Medicine.**

**Dr. Michele Weir** was awarded the 2009 M.E. Kirk Award for excellence in residency education. Congratulations go to her.

**Dr. Paul Adams** (Dept. of Medicine) will be the recipient of the 2010 Canadian Liver Foundation (CLF)/Canadian Association for the Study of the Liver (CASL) Gold Medal on February 28, 2010. Congratulations go to him.



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## Grants

**Dr. Candace Gibson** (PI) has received funding from the Office Interprofessional Health & Research for 1 year for her project entitled "Information technology and interprofessional health care".

**Drs. Ann Chambers** (PI) and **Alan Tuck** (coPI) have been awarded a research grant from CIHR for 1 year under the Canadian Graduate Scholarships relating to the Banting & Best Master's Award given to graduate student Jennifer Mutrie.

**Drs. David Driman** (PI), **Mara Caragea** (Co-I), **Joanne Sy** (Co-I) and **Jeremy Parfitt** (Co-I) have received a Pathology Internal Fund for Academic Development (PIFAD) award for their research project titled "Tumor budding and perineural invasion are independent and reproducible prognostic factors in colorectal carcinoma".

**Drs. Michele Weir** (Co-PI), **Bret Wehrli** (Co-PI) and **Areej Shibani** (Co-I), have received a Pathology Internal Fund for Academic Development (PIFAD) award for their research project titled "Cytology Immunomarker Validation Study".

## Publications

Andrews J, Kennette W, Pilon J, Hodgson A, **Tuck AB**, **Chambers AF**, Rodenhiser DI.  
 Multi-platform whole-genome microarray analyses refine the epigenetic signature of breast cancer metastasis with gene expression and copy number. PLoS One 5(1):e8665, 2010.

Dardick I, **Daley TD**, McComb RJ.  
 Sialoblastoma in adults: distinction from adenoid cystic carcinoma. Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol Endod Oct 30, 2009 (epub ahead of print)

Elzagallaai AA, Knowles SR, Rieder MJ, **Bend JR**, Shear NH, Koren G.  
 In vitro testing for the diagnosis of anticonvulsant hypersensitivity syndrome: a systematic review. Mol Diagn Ther 13(5):313-30, 2009.

Elzagallaai AA, Knowles SR, Rieder MJ, **Bend JR**, Shear NH, Koren G.  
 Patch testing for the diagnosis of anticonvulsant hypersensitivity syndrome: a systematic review. Drug Saf 32(5):391-408, 2009.

**Gabril, MY**, Yousef GM.  
 Informatics for practicing anatomical pathologists: marking a new era in pathology practice. Mod Pathol Jan 15, 2010 (epub ahead of print)

## Publications Cont.

### **Howlett CJ, Tweedie EJ, Driman DK.**

Use of an elastic stain to show venous invasion in colorectal carcinoma: a simple technique for detection of an important prognostic factor. *J Clin Pathol* 62:1021-5, 2009.

### **John MA, Burden J, Stuart JI, Reyes RC, Lannigan R, Milburn S, Diagre D, Wilson B, Hussain Z.**

Comparison of three phenotypic techniques for detection of methicillin resistance in staphylococcus spp. reveals a species-dependent performance. *J Antimicrob Chemother* 63(3):493-6, 2009

Lahiry P, Wong J, Robinson JF, Turowec JP, Litchfield DW, Lanktree MB, Gloor GB, Puffenberger EG, Strauss KA, Martens MB, **Ramsay DA**, Rupar CA, Hegele RA.

A multiple human syndrome implicates a key role for intestinal cell kinase in development of central nervous, skeletal, and endocrine systems. *Am J Hum Genet* 84(2):134-147, 2009.

Li, M, Zhang, X, Zheng, X, Lian, D, Feng, B, Vladau, C, Popov, IA, Suzuki, T, Pan, T, **Garcia, B**, Zhong, R, **Min, W-P**. A novel in vivo siRNA delivery system specifically targeting dendritic cells and silencing CD40 genes for immunomodulation. *Blood* 113(12):2646-2654, 2009.

Nicolas MM, Tamboli, P, **Gomez, JA**, Czerniak BA.

Pleomorphic and dedifferentiated leiomyosarcoma: clinicopathologic and immunohistochemical study of 41 cases. *Hum Pathology* (epub ahead of print)

Ranger A, Szymczak A, **Hammond RR**, Zelcer S.

Pediatric thalamic glioblastoma associated with Ollier disease (multiple enchondromatosis): a rare case of concurrence. *J Neurosurg Pediatr* 4(4):363-7, 2009.

Suzuki M, Zheng X, Zhang X, Ichim TE, Sun H, Kubo N, Beduhn M, Shunnar A, **Garcia B**, **Min WP**. Inhibition of allergic responses by CD40 gene silencing. *Allergy*. 2009 Mar;64(3):387-97. Epub 2009 Jan 28.

Smith AJ, **Drinan DK**, Spithoff K, Hunter A, McLeod RS, Simunovic M, Langer B; Expert Panel on Colon and Rectal Cancer Surgery and Pathology. Guideline for optimization of colorectal cancer surgery and pathology. *J Surg Oncol* 101(1):5-12, 2010.

Tong J, Wong H, Guttman M, **Ang LC**, Forno LS, Shimadzu M, Rajput AH, Muentner MD, Kish SJ, Hornykiewica O, Furukawa Y.

Brain alpha-synuclein accumulation in multiple system atrophy, Parkinson's disease and progressive supranuclear palsy: a comparative investigation. *Brain* 133(Pt 1):172-188, 2010.

Xu, Q, Mohamed, SS, Salama, MMA, Kamel, M, **Rizkalla K**.

Mass spectrometry-based proteomic pattern analysis for prostate cancer detection using neural networks with statistical significant test-based feature selection. *IEEE TIC-STH*:837-842, 2009.

## Publications Cont.

Xuan JW, Bygrave M, Valiyeva F, **Moussa M**, Izawa JI, Bauman GS, Klibanov A, Wang F, Greenberg NM, Fenster A. Molecular targeted enhanced ultrasound imaging of flk1 reveals diagnosis and prognosis potential in a genetically engineered mouse prostate cancer model. *Mol Imaging* 8(4):209-20, 2009.

Zhang ZX, Wang S, Huang X, **Min WP**, Sun H, Liu W, **Garcia B**, Jevnikar AM. NK cells induce apoptosis in tubular epithelial cells and contribute to renal ischemia-reperfusion injury. *J Immunol* 181(11):7489-7298, 2009.

## Abstracts, Posters and Presentations

Shibani, N. Panjwani, A. Arab, R. Inculet, L.W. Stitt, **J. Shepherd** and **M.G. Joseph**. Usefulness of Ki-67 for Predicting Metastatic Potential of Carcinoid Tumour of the Lung: A Study of 48 Cases, abstract #275, to the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology's 99th Annual Meeting, March 20-26, 2010 in Washington, DC.

## Miscellaneous



You may have noticed this picture on signs and buses around London. It is our own **Dr. Meg McLachlin**. This is part of the OMA's public information campaign to highlight physicians' commitment to patients.

**Remember to keep the  
 good news items coming!**

*Department of Pathology  
 Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry  
 University of Western Ontario*