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Welcome Dr. Lisa Cameron



The Department of Pathology is pleased to welcome Dr. Lisa Cameron, Associate Professor, as its newest full time faculty member effective April 1st. Dr. Cameron obtained her BSc (1995) in Anatomy and Cell Biology and PhD (2000) in Immunopathology from McGill University. Dr. Cameron received a CIHR post-doctoral fellowship to train with Dr. Donata Vercelli, Arizona Respiratory Centre, University of Arizona (2000-2005). Currently she is studying the regulatory effects of IL13-1112C>T, a single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) associated with allergic phenotypes. Her work has shown that CRTh2 SNPs are associated with phenotypes of allergic asthma and she is currently determining the mechanisms by which CRTh2 SNPs alter susceptibility and trajectory of allergic disease as well as the influence of environmental factors, such as polyunsaturated fatty acids. Dr. Cameron is a former Heritage Medical Scholar and past holder of the GSK-CIHR/Rx&D Chair in Airway Inflammation. She has published 31 peer-reviewed articles to date and her research program has been funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research, SickKids Foundation, Canadian Lung Association and GlaxoSmithKline.

Pathology Graduate Program welcomes new students

The department extends a warm welcome to two new MSc students in the Research Based Graduate Program:

Mr. Haged Alharbi, Msc Candidate
Supervisor: Dr. Patrick Luke

Mr Zijun Su, MSc Candidate
Supervisor: Dr Tianqing Peng

MCISc Expansion - Visit from Toronto Sites

The Master of Clinical Sciences, Pathologists' Assistant program, will be expanding to 3 sites in Toronto beginning in July 2014. All six second-year students will spend 2 months at Mt. Sinai, 2 months at the Ontario Forensic Pathology Services, and 1 month at the Hospital for Sick Children as part of their core practicum training year. We were delighted to host representatives from each of the Toronto sites at an orientation seminar on April 22. We look forward to collaborating with these centres in the training of our students in our professional graduate program.

Area of Focused Competency (AFC) in Cytopathology

The Cytopathology team is proud to announce the recent accreditation by the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada of our AFC (Diploma) program in Cytopathology. This is a competency based program with advanced training for Cytopathology. The trainee milestones include independent case sign-out of in-house and consultation cases, performance of rapid on-site adequacy evaluations & fine needle aspiration biopsies and participation in quality assurance activities. It is the first AFC in Cytopathology in Canada and the first accredited AFC program apart from transfusion medicine in Canada. Our first trainee for 2013-14 is Dr. Emily Filter. A special thanks to the team including Drs. S. Chakrabarti, N. Chan, D. Driman, E. Filter, K. Fung, M. Joseph, C.M. McLachlin, D. Morrison, A. Nichols, C. Watling, and J. Yoo and Ms. B Lim and Ms. S. Stewart. Congratulations to everyone on this historic achievement!

Dr. M. Weir, Program Director

Retreat update



Department of Pathology Strategic Planning Retreat was held on Friday, April 25th, at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre. This was a very productive and enjoyable day, with 48 attendees, a broad spectrum of participants that included pathologists, medical microbiologists, clinical chemists, basic and institute scientists, grad students, residents, fellows and staff. Many opportunities were identified relating to our department's academic vision of Excellence in Research, Excellence in Education and Excellence in Our Faculty and Staff. The Strategic Planning Committee will be meeting on May 27th to update our Strategic Plan, using the information and recommendations gathered at the retreat to move forward with our strategic directions, goals and objectives. There will be a presentation at the June departmental meeting outlining our next steps.

Publications

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Anantha RV, Jegatheswaran J, Pepe DL, Priestap F, Delport JA, Haeryfar SMM, McCormick JK, and Mele T. Risk Factors for Mortality Among Canadian Patients with *Staphylococcus aureus* Bacteremia: A Retrospective Cohort Study. *Canadian Journal of Infectious Diseases (CJID)*

Delport JA, John MA, Conkey B, MacDonaldK, and Lannigan R. Comparison of Direct Identification of Bacteria from VersaTrek Blood Culture Bottles Using a Seven Present Saponin Extraction Method and SepsiTyper by the Bruker MALDI-TOF. *International Journal of Infectious Diseases (IJID)*

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Weir MM, Colgan T. Endometrial Lesions, Unusual Tumours and Extrauterine Cancer. Chapter 10 in: *Comprehensive Cytopathology*. Ed: Drs. M. Bibbo and D. Wilbur, 2013: in press.

Rizek P, Cheung C, McLachlan RS, Hayman-Abello B, Lee DH, Hammond RR, Mirsattari SM. Childhood-onset nonprogressive chronic encephalitis. *Epilepsy Behav* 31 85-90 10.1016/j.yebeh.2013

Meyerson M, Collisson E, Campbell J, Berger A, Lee W, Brooks A, Chmielecki J, Rosenberg M, Cherniack A, Creighton C, Parfitt J, et al. Comprehensive Molecular Profiling of Lung Adenocarcinoma. *Nature*

John M, Hussain Z, Lannigan R, Newman A, Reed M, McInerney A, and Delport J. A Single Screen Protocol for Removing Previous MRSA Positive Patients from Precautions. CHICA Canada 2013 National Education Conference. June 1-5, 2014, Ottawa, Canada.

Palmer TD, Martínez CH, Vasquez C, Hebron KE, Jones-Paris C, Arnold SA, Chan SM, Chalasani V, Gomez-Lemus JA, Williams AK, Chin JL, Giannico GA, Ketova T, Lewis JD, Zijlstra A. Integrin-free tetraspanin CD151 can inhibit tumor cell motility upon clustering and is a clinical indicator of prostate cancer progression. *Cancer Res* 74 1 173-87 10.1158/0008-5472.CA

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Jason R Karamchandani, Nicole MA White, Andreas Scorilas, Manal Y Gabril, Emily Filter, George M Yousef. Profilin-1 Expression Is Associated With High Grade and Stage and Decreased Progression-Free Survival in Renal Cell Carcinoma *Mod Pathol*. March 2014

Gabril M. Molecular testing in urothelial tumors II. Molecular testing in adult kidney tumors III. Molecular testing in prostate cancer Molecular testing in cancer one

Schick BA, McLean CA, Driman DK. Negative colorectal polyp biopsies: The utility of cutting deeper levels. *Mod Pathol* 2014;27:202A, #823



The Douglas Bocking Award

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Kamilia Rizkalla for receiving one of the highest teaching awards at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. The Douglas Bocking award, created in honour of the former Dean of Medicine and Vice-Provost, is given annually to a faculty member at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry who has made an outstanding contribution to the development of medical education over the last four years. The award was bestowed upon Dr. Rizkalla by Dean Michael Strong at the Medical Convocation ceremony on May 16th, 2014. The following is a short excerpt from the Dean's speech: "This year's honoree has been a teacher, a mentor, and a course chair. As a teacher, this year's recipient has demonstrated excellence since 1993. As a mentor and friend, this year's recipient is a respected member of the undergraduate medical education program and a colleague and confidante to all. As a course chair, she has demonstrated a gold standard in terms of course organization, course management, leadership and student-centred learning."

Other Awards

- The 2013-2014 Frederick N. Lewis Memorial Prize was awarded to Qi Yao on February 4, 2014. This award is given to the undergraduate student who achieves the highest mark in the course Pathology 3240A, "Understanding Disease". The Frederick N. Lewis Memorial Prize is given in memory of Dr. Fred Lewis, who was a member of our Pathology staff for a good number of years, and for quite a while organized and coordinated this course.
- The 2013-2014 Professor Colin Anderson Award was awarded to Dominic Leblanc on May 15, 2014. This award is given to the undergraduate student who achieves the highest mark in the course Pathology 3245B, "Diseases of Organ Systems". The Anderson Award is given in memory of Dr. Colin Anderson, who was a member of our Pathology faculty from 1973 to 1996, during which time he organized and coordinated this course.
- Congratulations to Kelsey Watson. Kelsey will receive the Gold Medal for achieving the highest average in the Honors Specialization Program in Pathology and Toxicology on June 12th.
- Congratulations to Swati Chavda. Swati will receive the Gold Medal in BMSc Pathology Major on June 12th.

Dr. Xiufen Zheng NSERC funding success

Congratulations to Dr. Xiufen Zheng, who has been awarded a Natural Sciences & Engineering Council Research (NSERC) Discovery Grant, effective April 1, 2014. Dr. Zheng has been awarded \$301,700 over five years for her proposal titled "Methylation and HIF as regulators of miRNA-711 and its impact on stress induced cell death".

In this study, Dr. Zheng and her team aim to investigate how microRNAs are regulated and their roles and function in response to low oxygen and oxidative stress through a series of cell culture experiments.

The success of the study will provide new insight into understanding the mechanisms by which microRNAs function in stress responses. It will help understand how miRNAs are regulated and generated. It will also offer an excellent training environment for trainees.

Annual Pathology Research Day

The 2014 Annual Pathology Research Day was held on March 28th, 2014. The event was attended by over 100 faculty, residents, students, and staff. The day started off with an outstanding keynote address delivered by internationally renowned cancer biologist, Dr Thomas Hudson, President and Scientific Director of the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research. His engaging talk was followed by Pathology trainee platform and poster presentations on a wide range of topics underscoring the multidisciplinary research being carried out in the Department of Pathology.



Awards Winners:

Chair's Award for the Best Clinical Science Presentation: **Will Stecho**
Title of presentation: Assessment of Resident Grossing Skills in the Digital Age: Evaluation and Implementation of a Mobile Digital Assessment Tool

Dr. M. Daria Haust Award for the Best Basic Science Presentation: **Wahab A. Khan**
Title of presentation: Differences in Chromatin Accessibility are present between Homologous Metaphase Chromosomes

Best Clinical Science Poster Presentation Award: **Brian A. Schick**
Title of presentation: Negative Colorectal Polyp Biopsies: The Utility of Cutting Deeper Levels

Best Basic Science Poster Presentation Award: **Milica Krstic**
Title of presentation: The role of transcriptional regulator TBX3 in early breast cancer progression

Best Basic/Clinical Science Collaborative Poster Presentation: **Jacqueline Cox**
Title of presentation: Expression of Human tissue Kallikriens (KLKs) in Polymorphous Low Grade Adenocarcinoma (PLGA)

Best Undergraduate Basic Science Poster Presentation: **Kelsey Watson**
Title of presentation: Interaction of Primary Human Trabecular Meshwork Cells with Metal Alloy Candidates for Microinvasive Glaucoma Surgery

MCISc Graduate Research Award: **Jenna Strong**
Title of presentation: Canada's First Accredited Pathologists' Assistant Graduate Program: A Self Study and Review

MCISc Graduate Research Award: : **Rebecca Mantha**
Title of presentation: The Application of a Multitissue Spring-roll Control Block in Immunohistochemistry.

The Cameron Wallace Graduate Student Award in Pathology: **Phaedra Henley**

Family Bowling Night

On April 29, 2014 the Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Social Committee hosted a Family Bowling Night at the London Palasad. It was a great success with approximately 80 people attending. We had pizza, salad and veggie trays available for everyone provided by the Social Committee.



Past Event Highlights

Robert Zhong Research Seminar

Thursday, March 13, 2014
Robert Cummings PhD
Associate Professor,
Department of Biology

Exploring the relationship between cancer-like metabolism and brain function in Alzheimer's disease.

Grand Rounds

Thursday, February 13, 2014
Dr. Johan Delpont
Medical Microbiologist
Assistant Professor,
Department of Pathology

Microbiology: What is new?

Grand Rounds

Thursday, April 10, 2014
Dr. Nikhil Sangle
Assistant Professor,
Department of Pathology

Lymphoproliferative disorders in this era of transplant and immunomodulatory therapies

University Department Name Change Update

The proposed name change has now been approved by Schulich Faculty Council, by the Senate Committee on University Planning (SCUP) and by University Senate. The final hurdle is approval by the University Board of Governors and the proposal is on the June 28 agenda for that governance body.



Keep The News Coming....

Please send your submission to Susan Stewart
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