

Jay M. McDonald, MD

Robert and Ruth Anderson Professor and Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The search for the new Chair of Pathology is reaching its conclusion with a new chair expected to be named in the next week or so and in place by September. We will produce a special edition of the Pathology-In-Focus dedicated to the announcement.

In 1990, when I came to UAB as Chair of Pathology, we had no endowed professorships or chairs. With approval of the Mowry Professorship, as noted in this issue, the Department now has four (4). They are:

Leonard H Robinson Chair

Held by: Dan Welch, Ph.D.

Robert and Ruth Anderson Chair

Held by Jay McDonald, M.D.

Wyatt and Susan Haskell Professorship

Held by Casey Weaver, M.D.

Robert W. Mowry Professorship

To be determined

As an update to my last NIH funding comments, the School of Medicine has determined that the UAB Department of Pathology is actually 6th overall in NIH funding among academic Pathology departments. We have achieved our goal to be in the top 10 in NIH funding and look forward to continued growth.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Department of Pathology at UAB.

Sincerely,

Jay M. McDonald, M.D.

Department of Pathology Web

Site <http://www.path.uab.edu>

KEEP IN TOUCH.....Newsletter

E-Mail: PATHINFOCUS@uab.edu

**ROBERT W. MOWRY
ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP**



The University of Alabama System Board of Trustees has approved the Robert W. Mowry, MD, Endowed Professorship in the Department of Pathology.

For more than 50 years, Dr. Mowry was a member of the UAB Department of Pathology faculty serving as Director of the Anatomical Pathology Laboratory, Director of autopsy, Professor and Director of the Pathology Graduate Program.

Dr. Mowry was also professor of Health Services Administration, senior scientist at the University of Alabama Institute of Dental Research, a consultant for the Food and Drug Administration, and a visiting scholar at the University of Cambridge in England.

Dr. Mowry wrote numerous articles and books and served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry*, *Stain Technology*, *American Medical Association Archives of Pathology*, and *Biotechnics and Histochemistry*.

In 1989, Dr. Mowry was awarded Professor Emeritus status for his long and influential career at UAB and in the Department of Pathology.

Dr. Mowry was a primary influence on the success and development of the Department of Pathology. This endowed professorship will serve as a lasting tribute to his dedicated years of service to UAB.

Drs. McDonald and Alexander will travel to Memphis to present the resolution to Dr. Mowry who resides in a senior living facility there. Dr. Mowry's family will attend this presentation.

The Department of Pathology has established a search committee to seek out the ideal candidate to fill the Professorship.

**MESSAGE FROM THE
PATHOLOGY FACULTY
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MESSAGE FROM THE FAC

The Faculty Advisory Council is seeking input from the faculty on challenges facing the department. The focus is on issues that facilitate professional development and stability in the faculty. To that end, this effort is intended to establish a rational and realistic set of issues that can be presented for consideration to the incoming Chairman. One challenge is to determine issues that have the broadest impact as well as those affecting specific divisions. We have solicited input via email on two occasions and received a number of helpful responses. Thanks to those who responded; and for those that have not, there still is time for your voice to be heard. It is premature to attempt to summarize the replies received so far, but it is clear that financial and faculty support are strong department wide opinions. If you have not responded, please do so via email to your FAC representative.

Anatomic Pathology

Aleodor Andea

David Chhieng

Laboratory Medicine

Bill Benjamin

Stephen Moser

Molecular and Cellular Pathology

Rakesh Patel

Neuropathology and Forensic

John Shacka

**PATHOLOGY IN FOCUS
EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**

Editor-in-Chief: C. Bruce Alexander, M.D.

Nirag C. Jhala, M.D.

Scott Ballinger, Ph.D.

Walter C. Bell, M.D.

Marisa B. Marques, M.D.

Gary T. Simmons, M.D.

Marty Simmons & Margaret Dotzler

FACULTY PROFILES



Gary T. Simmons, M.D.

**Assistant Professor of Pathology
Div. of Forensic Pathology**

Dr. Simmons currently serves as an Associate Coroner/Medical Examiner for Jefferson County. He is a graduate of the University of Tennessee Medical School and did an Anatomical and Clinical Pathology residency at Louisiana State University followed by a fellowship in Forensic Pathology at the Dade County (Miami, Florida) Medical Examiner's Office. His duties at the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner Office include postmortem examinations of those individuals whose deaths fall under the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner statute, which includes all traumatic deaths as well as suspicious and sudden and unexpected deaths. He is active at the University level with teaching medical students, residents and fellows and also participates in the hospital organ donation task force.

On a national level his activities include serving the National Association of Medical Examiners currently and for the past seven years as the chairman of the Membership and Credentials Committee and as a current member of the Board of Directors. Dr. Simmons has given several presentations at national scientific meetings including topics such as sudden death associated with renal hemodialysis and postmortem identification of unrecognizable remains. He has published on subjects such as homicidal starvation, etiology of pulmonary thromboemboli, and drug related deaths. He has a continuing interest in the microscopic dating of wounds.

On a personal level Dr. Simmons is married with two teenage sons. He enjoys spending his free time with his family with an emphasis on outdoor related pursuits and is active with his sons in participating with the Boy Scouts.



Moon H. Nahm, MD

**Professor of Pathology, Head of
Immunology, Division of Laboratory
Medicine**

Dr. Moon H. Nahm graduated from Washington University School of Medicine in 1974. He remained there as a resident in

both Medicine and Pathology, then as a faculty member, until leaving in 1996 to accept a position as a Professor at the University of Rochester. Dr. Nahm moved to UAB in 2001 to be the Director of the Clinical Immunology Laboratory and of the NIH Bacterial Respiratory Pathogen Reference laboratory.

He has received numerous honors and awards, including election to fellow in the American Academy of Microbiology. He also was chosen as one of 20 outstanding Korean Medical Scientists by the Korean Medical Association. Dr. Nahm has participated in both national and international committees and is a member of many professional societies, including the American Association for Clinical Chemistry, the American Society for Microbiology, the Clinical Immunology Society, and the American Association of Immunologists. Since 1977, Dr. Nahm has published more than 140 manuscripts and contributed to 27 books. His extensive experience has led him to receive multiple grants from NIH and others for research in vaccines and microbial pathogenesis. Recently, he has made a significant contribution in pneumococcal vaccine development by discovering a new pneumococcal serotype and inventing a practical way to measure antibody function.

Despite multiple national and international presentations and committees, Dr. Nahm finds time for and enjoys teaching the residents in our department.



Thomas S. Winokur, M.D.

**Associate Professor of Pathology,
Division of Anatomic Pathology**

Dr. Thomas Winokur arrived at UAB in December 1993 following a four-year stint as a Senior Staff Fellow at the National Cancer Institute where he worked under Michael Sporn on transforming growth factor beta. Earlier in his career he served as a staff pathologist and acting head of anatomic pathology at Fox Chase Cancer Ctr. in Philadelphia. Dr. Winokur attended Washington University School of Medicine and completed his anatomic pathology residency there along with a postdoctoral fellowship with Michael Lieberman.

Initially, at UAB, Dr. Winokur worked on the role of TGF-beta in cardiac myocytes. He later became involved in a research project with the electrical engineering department at UAB which focused on designing and building a robotic microscope to be used in telepathology. That project resulted in an international patent.

As that project wound down, he focused on his role as a general surgical pathologist that remains his focus today. Dr. Winokur, signs out on the general surgical pathology service and is one of two cardiac pathologists. In addition, he is one of several surgical pathologists with a special interest in soft tissue pathology. He serves as the anatomic pathology liaison to the hospital information systems and has been involved in installing two different versions of Cerner AP modules. He also participates in the undergraduate medical curriculum both in the general pathology course and the cardiovascular module.

Outside of the hospital, Dr. Winokur maintains an avid interest in youth soccer through his two sons' successful soccer careers. He has spent several years as team manager and high school team representative. When his younger son graduates from high school this spring, he and his wife will have to find a new avocation.

ACCOLADES



Gene P. Siegal, MD, PhD,

Professor and Director of Anatomic Pathology, has been named the Editor-in-Chief of *Laboratory Investigation*



Joanne E. Murphy-Ullrich,

PhD, Professor and Associate Director of the Biomatrix Engineering and Regenerative Medicine Center has been elected Secretary/Treasurer of American Society for Matrix Biology.



Peter G. Anderson, PhD, DVM

has been appointed a member of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) as a test committee representative. Dr. Anderson chairs the USMLE Step 1 Pathology Committee and is a member of the USMLE Step 1 Interdisciplinary Review Committee.



Robbina G. Lorenz, MD, PhD

The School of Medicine has awarded Dr. Lorenz the **2008 Dean's Award for Excellence in Mentorship**

FROM THE CHIEF RESIDENTS



Carrie Knight, M.D.

Anatomic Pathology



Meredith Lakey M.D.

Clinical Pathology

Farewell from Outgoing Chiefs

We are excited about the new residents who are joining the program in July, and we appreciate all of the efforts by the residents and faculty who helped with recruiting this year. Our six new residents are:

Frank Anderson: LSUHSC School of Medicine in Shreveport

Sam Borak: UASOM

Qian Dai: Medical Center of Fudan University

George Garib: Universidad Central del Caribe School of Medicine

Emily Gorman: UASOM

Amberly Nunez: LSUHSC School of Medicine in New Orleans

We congratulate **Jeremy Henderson (CP)** and **Diane Peterson (AP)** on their selection as the Chief Residents for 2008-2009, and we wish them both the best of luck.

As we near the end of our term, we would like to thank everyone for this opportunity to serve as Chief Residents. Thanks for a great year!

Meredith Lakey and Carrie Knight

Chief Residents, 2007-2008



Mark Steciuk examines a specimen at Gross Conference, as (from left to right) **Emily Reisenbichler**, **Darrell Sanders**, **Kathrina Alexander**, **Zhaohai Yang**, and Dr. Walter Bell look on.

2008 Incoming Fellows*

Holly Burford (UAB): Dermatopathology

Leona Council (UAB): Surgical Pathology

Daniel Dye (UAMS): Forensic Pathology

Keith Harrison (UAB): Neuropathology

Jeremy Henderson (UAB):

Hematopathology

Ibrahim Khalifeh (Wayne State

University/Detroit Medical Center):

Dermatopathology

Carrie Knight (UAB): Cytopathology

Neal McCollum (Orlando Regional

Healthcare): Hematopathology

Cindi Snowden (UTMB, Baylor

University): Cytopathology

Shi Wei (UAB): Surgical Pathology/Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology

Zhaohai Yang (UAB): GI Pathology

*Residency institutions noted in parentheses.

RESIDENT AND FELLOW OUTGOING RECEPTION AND AWARDS

Vestavia Hills Country Club

Thursday, May 22, 2008 6:00-8:00 PM

Primary faculty and residents and fellows are invited to attend the Outgoing Reception. For more information, please contact Karen Lewis at 934-4060 or kflewis@uab.edu.

Farewell To Our Departing Residents and Fellows

UAB Hospital and the Department of Pathology wish you success and happiness in your future endeavors. Best wishes to:

Nicole Balmer -Fellowship, Wake Forest

Holly Burford - Fellowship, UAB

Tad Cherry - Anesthesiology Faculty, UAB

Tonya Eichelberger -Private Practice, Baton Rouge

Ranleigh Fleshman -Private Practice, Springfield, IL

Nicholaus Hilliard -Private Practice, Pensacola

Brenda Katz -Interviews in progress

Meredith Lakey -Fellowship, Mayo Clinic

Stephen Mason -Private Practice, Baton Rouge

Bruce Wainer -Fellowship, Fort Lauderdale

Zhijie Yan -Private Practice



USCAP Jeremy Henderson attended two companion meetings at the 97th Annual USCAP Meeting in Denver, Colorado in March. He represented our program as an Alabama delegate to the CAP Residents Forum. He also attended the meeting of the ASCP Resident Council, on which he serves as a member-at-large.

National Meetings

ASFA

The 29th Annual ASFA Meeting was held on April 9 – 12, 2008, in Galveston, Texas.

Jose Lima gave an oral presentation titled “Vascular Access Complications and Management in Extracorporeal Photopheresis”. Faculty mentor was Dr. Marla Troughton.

ACLPS

The 43rd Annual ACLPS Meeting will be held on June 5 – 7, 2008, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. **Darrell Sanders** will give an oral presentation titled “Is the New IgG Enzyme-Immunoassay for HIT a Solution for Our Diagnostic Dilemma?” Faculty mentor is Dr. Marisa Marques. **Liz Kerr** will present the poster “Expression of Smac/DIABLO in Lymphomas Involving Ovaries and Cervix: A Retrospective Study at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.” Faculty mentor is Dr. Darshana Jhala.

ISDP

The 11th Joint Meeting of ISDP was held on January 30 – 31, 2008, in San Antonio, Texas. **Nicole Balmer** presented “Aggressive Cutaneous T-cell Lymphoma with Aberrant Co-Expression of CD20” and “Unusual Cutaneous Lymphohistiocytic Proliferations in Siblings with Idiopathic Immunodeficiency Syndromes.” Faculty mentor for both presentations was Dr. Aleodor Andea.

ASDP

The 44th Annual ASDP Meeting was held on October 18 – 21, 2007, in Baltimore, Maryland. **Nicholaus Hilliard** presented the posters “Necrotizing Sarcoidosis” and “Pigmented Paget’s Disease,” and **Stephen Mason** presented the poster “Bismarck Brown as a Selective Stain for Mast Cells in Dermatopathologic Specimens.”

AAFS

The 60th Annual AAFS Meeting was held on February 18 – 23, 2008, in Washington, D.C. **Diane Peterson** presented “Gas Chromatography of Postmortem Blood Revealing Sevoflurane in a Patient Six Hours Post-op.” Faculty mentors were Drs. Andrew Robinson, Gary Simmons, and Robert Brissie.

ACGME Site Visit : The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education conducted the five year site visit of the residency program on Tuesday, May 20, 2008.

PATHOLOGY GRADUATE PROGRAM

Scott W. Ballinger, PhD,
Program Director

The Molecular and Cellular Pathology Graduate Program has completed its recruitment for Fall 2008. We are pleased to announce the following new incoming 2008 graduate students:

Yanna Ding Southern Illinois University

Jerome Higgs Voorhees College

Niroop Kaza UAB

Angela Gullard Judson College
Ms. Gullard is part of the newly establish DMD/PhD program at UAB.

INCOMING STUDENT RECEPTION

Faculty and Students
September 8, 2009, 4:00-6:00 PM
Shelby Building Room 105

PREP PROGRAM

The Pathology Research Experience Program offers qualified college-level science majors an undergraduate research program in molecular and cellular pathology. This program is designed to introduce students to the exciting and challenging field of modern experimental pathology. Students will become an integral part of an investigative team and will spend approximately 10 weeks during the summer months beginning on May 19 working in the laboratories of scientists in the Department of Pathology on projects related to the molecular basis of disease.

Daniel Clements University of Alabama,
Birmingham, AL

Paul Daft Gannon University
Erie, PA

Brittnee Lucas Philander Smith College
Little Rock, AR

Haejee Moon Samford University
Birmingham, AL

Jesus Sanchez Texas College
Tyler, TX

Sara Stone Auburn University
Auburn, AL

ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to **Pritish Pawar** (mentor, Dr. Jay McDonald) who on May 13, 2008 successfully defended his thesis entitled *Calmodulin binding to cellular FLICE like inhibitory protein modulates Fas-induced signaling and tumorigenesis in cholangiocarcinoma*



Pritish presenting his defense.

AWARDS:

Congratulations



Douglas DiGirolamo has been named the Most Outstanding Pathology Graduate Student of the 2007-2008 year.

Congratulations to **Alexandra Silveira** (mentor, Dr. Dan Welch) who received the AFLAC Scholar-in-Training Travel Award.

Congratulations to **Pritish Pawar** (mentor, Jay McDonald) who took Third place at the UAB Graduate Student Research Day.

Congratulations to **Anand Annan** (mentor, David Curiel) who was awarded the Travel Scholarship from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation's "Who's Who Among Students."

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday JUNE 21, 2008 - **Program Picnic and Awards Ceremony** – Vestavia Hills Wald Park. All faculty and graduate students and their families are invited to attend.

May 16, 2008 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ying Geng will be giving the public defense of her thesis dissertation entitled "*p53-dependent Neural Stem Cell Death Regulation*" in Bevill 170

June 20, 2008 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Lakisha Moore is scheduled to defend her thesis. Title TBD, Bevill 170

July 1, 2008 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Douglas DiGirolamo is scheduled to defend his thesis entitled "*Growth Hormone Signaling and Action in Osteoblasts*" in Bevill 170

Summer Commencement

August 9, 2009

Mr. Ralph Patterson is staff coordinator for the Pathology Graduate Program. Mr. Patterson can be reached at (205) 934-2445.