

Message from the Chair

Inside this issue:

Faculty Profile: Dr. Almeida	2
Where Are They Now?	3
Spotlight on Admin Support	3
Accolades	4
New Chief Residents	4
From the Residents	5-6
From the Graduate Students	7
Marques Faculty Award	7
Pathology Grant Awards	8
Blood Drive Information	8



2011 is off to an exciting start. Dr. Jonas Almeida (profiled in this issue) has assumed the directorship of the Division of Informatics and is actively recruiting faculty, students and staff into this new division. Dr. John Chatham (also profiled in this issue) has been appointed Director of the Molecular and Cellular Pathology Division and is in the process of establishing his laboratory

and administrative office in Volker Hall. Drs. Almeida and Chatham bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to our department and I look forward to working closely with them and their respective division members to develop new initiatives for divisional and departmental success.

The School of Medicine under the leadership of Dean Ray Watts is in the process of updating its Strategic Plan and many Department of Pathology faculty members are playing key roles in defining re-

search priorities and scientific directions. As both a Clinical and Joint Health Sciences Department, we are ideally positioned to provide valuable perspectives on the future directions of the School of Medicine.

Best wishes,
Kevin A. Roth, M.D., Ph.D.

Faculty Profile: John C. Chatham, D.Phil.



We are pleased to announce the appointment of John Chatham, D. Phil. as Director of

the Division of Molecular and Cellular Pathology effective Jan 1st 2011 after a nationwide search process. The MCP division is the primary research division in the Department of Pathology and John will lead an accomplished and well funded group of scientists with diverse research interests ranging from cell signaling, inflammation, cellular matrix and free radical biology. John is a native of the UK and received his early training at the University of Southampton England where he received a B.Sc. in Chemistry and then went on to

the University of Oxford where he was awarded a D.Phil. in Biochemistry. He started his Post-Doctoral training in the USA first at the Huntington Medical Research Institutes, Pasadena, CA and then the Department of Radiology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. After his postdoctoral training he joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine first as an Instructor and then as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology. In 2000 we were fortunate to recruit John to UAB in the Department of Medicine where he was appointed Professor in 2007.

John's research focuses on the pathophysiology of cardiac dysfunction with a special emphasis on the mechanisms leading to

heart failure in diabetes, cell damage in ischemia and hemorrhagic shock. A common theme to all these projects is the role glucose plays in post-translational modifications of proteins mediated by the hexosamine biosynthesis pathway leading to increased modification of proteins via a single O-linked beta-N-acetylglucosamine moiety (O-GlcNAc) to serine and threonine residues of nuclear and cytoplasmic proteins. It is increasingly recognized that protein O-GlcNAcylation can affect protein function in a manner analogous to phosphorylation and has been shown to influence a wide array of signaling pathways including those involved in regulating apoptosis and autophagy.

Cont'd on Page 2

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Faculty Profile: John C. Chatham, D.Phil. cont'd.

He was the recipient of the UAB Department of Medicine Max Cooper Award for Research Excellence for 2007-2008. In 2009 John was first elected as the School of Medicine Representative to the UAB Faculty Senate and subsequently as Chair of the Faculty Senate, with his one year term starting in June 2011. John brings a wealth of research, administrative and science policy exper-

tise to the Department of Pathology. He has been a regular member of the NIH study section of Myocardial Ischemia and Metabolism and has also participated in numerous NIH Special Emphasis review panels including NCCR Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE). He is an active member of the American Physiology Society (APS) and in 2010 was appointed Chair of the Science

Policy Committee, which is focused on addressing science and public policy issues that affect APS members. He is currently on the Editorial boards for the journals SHOCK and the American Journal of Physiology – Heart and Circulatory Physiology and Life Sciences. Please join us in welcoming John to our Department.

Faculty Profile: Jonas S. Almeida, Ph.D.



Jonas S Almeida, PhD, is the newest Professor of Pathology and the inaugural

Director of the Division of Informatics in our department. He has been in Birmingham since the beginning of January, with his wife Angela and children Noah and Raquel.

Dr. Almeida was born in Portugal, raised in Angola and eventually returned to Lisbon where he attended undergraduate school at the University of Lisbon. Following the receipt of his PhD in Biological Engineering in the same city at the University Nova in 1995, he came to the United States as a post-doctoral fellow in Microbial Ecology at the University of Tennessee, ORNL. Since then, Dr. Almeida has held positions in South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

From 2001-2005, Dr. Almeida worked at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston, SC as an Associate Professor of Bioinformatics and as the Director of the Bioinformatics core facility of the NHLBI funded Proteomics Center.

Prior to coming to UAB, Dr. Almeida was a Professor of Bioinformatics at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston from 2006-2010.

Dr. Almeida has 120 peer-reviewed publications and is an internationally recognized authority in the field of bioinformatics. His main areas of interest include bioinformatics, computational statistics and computational infrastructure for integration of data acquisition and analysis. Cloud computing and Semantic Web are particular emphasis of his ongoing research.

Since 1996, he has graduated 13 PhD trainees as principal advisor, who have gone on to be successful in their fields. He is currently mentoring 2 more PhD students.

Dr. Almeida is involved in a number of collaborative research initiatives such as the Center for Translational Science Awards (CTSA) and The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA).

The new division of informatics in the Department of Pathology was started in January with the arrival of

its inaugural director. Recruitment of new staff and faculty is underway. The division's first analyst is scheduled to start February 10th. The most frequently corridor enquiring has been the ironic "so what is informatics?" so here is the accurate answer from the dictionary for the wise-cracks: "Informatics is the study of application of computer and statistical techniques to the management of information".

The longer answer, which will be kept on the division web page with additional material and links to tools and resources, is that the newly created Division of Informatics pursues computational research and tool development to integrate biomolecular and clinical data and advance personalized medicine. Accordingly, collaborative research is configured to involve computational statisticians and clinical researchers. The resources developed and maintained at the division to support this research range from novel integrative algorithms and the corresponding software libraries to novel integrative computational infrastructure.

Bem-vindo a UAB, Dr. Almeida!

Where are They Now?

From the Pathology Residency Program



Jeremy Henderson, M.D.

Dr. Jeremy Henderson completed his residency training at UAB in June of

2008. He had received his M.D. degree from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine in Shreveport in 2004. Dr. Henderson began his AP/CP residency training at UAB in 2004 and was Chief Resident in Clinical Pathology in 2008-2009. During his Chief Resident year, Dr. Henderson completed a Hematopathology Fellowship, and in 2009-2010, was an Instructor/Fellow in Surgical Pathology at UAB. When asked about his favorite memories from his residency days at UAB, Dr. Henderson recounted the great opportunities that he had at UAB to become involved in positions of leadership and service within the national pathology organizations

(CAP and ASCP). He also has fond memories of many of the faculty, residents and fellows, and support staff with whom he worked.

During his residency and fellowship training at UAB, Dr. Henderson served as an Alabama Delegate to the Residents Forum of the College of American Pathologists from 2005-2009. He was a Member-at-Large of the Resident Council of the American Society for Clinical Pathology in 2006-2009, and a Member of the Council on Accreditation of the College of American Pathologists in 2007-2009.

In September of 2010, Dr. Henderson passed his hematopathology boards and is now board certified in hematopathology as well as anatomic and clinical pathology. Currently, Dr. Henderson is in private practice in Covington, Louisiana with a group that serves three hospitals, and he is on the Executive Quality Committee of one of the hospitals.

Dr. Henderson maintains his involve-

ment in national academic medicine primarily through the American Society for Clinical Pathology. In August of 2010, he was elected to serve a 3-year term on the Fellow Council of the ASCP, which is charged with providing advice and recommendations to the Board of Directors through the Commission on Membership on how the ASCP may best meet the needs of its Fellow members. The Council's responsibilities also include identifying educational and professional needs of Fellow members and ensuring that Council activities further the strategic goals of the ASCP. Dr. Henderson also is a member of the ASCP Instructional Technology Committee where he has served since 2008. In addition, he is a member of the College of American Pathologists, The Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists, the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology, and the Association for Pathology Informatics.

Dr. Henderson lives in Livingston, Louisiana; and in his spare time enjoys traveling, playing the piano, and following LSU sports.

“...great opportunities To become involved in positions of leadership and service within the national pathology organizations”

Spotlight on Admin support: Sandy Cummings



Ms. Cassandra (Sandy) Cummings is an OA II in the Department of Pathology, Division of Anatomic Pa-

thology. She provides assistance and support for Dr. Gene P. Siegal, Anatomic Pathology Division Director, as well as coordinates other divisional duties such as faculty recruitment and evaluations.

Sandy began her career at UAB in 1995 in the Department of Medicine (DOM)/Division of Gastroenterol-

ogy/Hepatology before transferring to the DOM Chairman's Office in 2002 where she maintained the personnel databases and provided assistance and support to the Department's Personnel Officer. In June of 2008, wanting to add to her UAB knowledge, she transferred to the Department of Pathology, Division of Anatomic Pathology.

After transferring to Anatomic Pathology, Sandy has been enthusiastic in her approach to new areas, software, etc. Sandy has an Associate Degree in Business and hopes to soon achieve her Bachelor's Degree

in Health Care Business Administration.

Even before beginning her career here, she said that she has always felt a connection to UAB. She was born at what was then called University Hospital and her connection continued to grow during her childhood when she participated in a research study.

Sandy and her husband Tom reside in her hometown of Moody with their two cats.

Accolades:



Peter G. Anderson, DVM, PhD has been asked to be a visiting faculty member for the 2011 Harvard Macy Institute Program for Educators in the Health Professions.



Zdenek Hel, Ph.D. has been elected as a member of the Faculty Advisory Council (FAC). His term runs from 1/1/10–12/31/11.

Heparanase plays a dual role in driving hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) signaling by enhancing HGF expression and activity. *J. Biol. Chem.* 2010 Dec. 3 [Epub ahead of print].



Scott W. Ballinger, Ph.D. has been elected as a member of the Faculty Advisory Council (FAC).

His term runs from 1/1/11 to 12/31/12.



Ralph D. Sanderson, Ph.D. has had the following publication chosen as a JBC "Paper of the Week".

This honor is reserved for the top 1-2% of papers published by the Journal. Vishnu Ramani (postdoc) and Yang Yang (Asst Professor) are co-first authors on the paper. Dr. Yongsheng Ren, the third author is a hematopathologist in our department. Ramani VC, Yang Y, Ren Y, Nan L, Sanderson RD:

New Chief Residents:

We are pleased to announce the new Pathology Chief Residents for 2011-2012, effective April 1, 2011.



Anatomic Pathology – Dr. Amberly Nunez



Laboratory Medicine – Dr. Emily Gorman

We would like to thank the outgoing Chiefs, Drs. Darrell Sanders and Marian Kraemer, for a great year and their selfless service to the

Pathology Residency Program, the Department, and UAB.

As in past years, there will be a month of overlap with the outgoing Chiefs.

From the Chief Residents:

Recruiting has finally come to a close. Marian and I wanted to take this opportunity to extend a sincere thanks to all residents, faculty, and staff that assisted us during this very important process. We are anticipating another great Match Day in March, and subsequently another outstanding group of new residents to join us in July.

Darrell Sanders and Marian Kraemer
Chief Residents, 2010-2011

Once again, UAB Pathology residents continue to be actively involved in research. Numerous residents and fellows authored and/or co-authored abstracts selected for presentation at several national meetings. They are listed below with their faculty mentors. Great job and congratulations to all!

USCAP Meeting 2011

The United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology Meeting will be held in San Antonio, Texas, February 26th - March 4th.

Shuting Bai: "Risk Categories Predicts Disease Progression and Overall Survival for Low Stage Oral/Oropharyngeal Cancers" (Dr. Margaret Brandwein-Gensler).

"Transcriptionally Active High-Risk Human Papillomavirus in Salivary Mucoepidermoid Carcinoma - A Novel Finding." (Dr. Margaret Brandwein-Gensler).

"Foxp3 Expression in Microscopic Colitides: Clinicopathological Study of 69 Patients." (Dr. Gene Siegal

and Dr. Nirag Jhala)

Amberly Nunez: "CD138 Expression in Osteosarcoma" (Dr. Gene Siegal and Dr. Vishnu Reddy).

Rong Li: "Impact of Intrauterine Retention on Determining Cause of Death in Stillborns" (Dr. Ona Marie Faye-Petersen and Dr. Stephanie Reilly)

Ginny Dailey: "Determining Carcinoma Extent Based on Percentage in Radical Prostatectomy (RP) Specimens by Non-Genitourinary Pathologists (N-GUPs) and Pathology Trainees (PTs)" (Dr. Omar Hameed)

Chris Kragel: "Factors Associated with Presence/Absence of Residual Disease after Initial Breast-Conserving Surgery for Ductal Carcinoma in Situ (DCIS)" (Dr. Shi Wei and Dr. Omar Hameed)

Zhiyong Ren: "Prognostic Factors in Breast Carcinoma (BC) with Distant Metastasis" (Dr. Shi Wei and Dr. Omar Hameed)

Amberly Nunez/ Faisal Mukhtar/ Ginny Dailey: "Frozen Section (FS) Evaluation of Margins in Radical Prostatectomy Specimens" (Dr. Omar Hameed)

Emily Reisenbichler/Johnny Ross: "Clinical Utility of a p63-CK7/18-CK5/14 Antibody Cocktail in Diagnostic Breast Pathology" (Dr. Omar Hameed)

Qian Dai /Emily Reisenbichler: "Choosing an Immunohistochemistry (IHC) System? A Comparison of Three IHC Stainers and Polymers

from Different Manufacturers". (Dr. Omar Hameed)

ISDP Meeting 2011

The 14th Joint Meeting of the International Society of Dermatopathology will be held at the Chateau Bourbon Historic Hotel in New Orleans, LA, February 2nd-3rd.

Thuy Nguyen: "Expression of CK19, CD56 and CD57 in Neuroendocrine Basal Cell Carcinoma: Do Neuroendocrine BCC and Classic BCC share the same origin?" (Dr. Aleodor Andea)

George Garib: "Juvenile Hyaline Fibromatosis: A Case Report." (Dr. Aleodor Andea)

AAFS Meeting 2011

The 63rd Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences will be held in Chicago, IL on February 21st-26th.

Emily Gorman: "The Relationship of Back Surgery to Overdose at Autopsy (Dr. Robert Brissie and Dr. Greg Davis).

ASDP Meeting 2010

The 47th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Dermatopathology was held in Atlanta, GA, October 7th-10th.

George Garib: "Pitfalls in the Diagnosis of Extranodal NK/T-Cell Lymphoma, Nasal Type: A Case Report" (Dr. Aleodor Andea and Dr. Vishnu Reddy)

Cont'd on Page 6

From the Residents Cont'd:

George Garib: "Autosomal Dominant Familial Angiolipomatosis: A Case Report." (Dr. Gene Siegal and Dr. Aleodor Andea)

George Garib: "Vulvar Syringoma: A Case Report." (Dr. Nicole Balmer and Dr. Aleodor Andea)

CAP Residents Forum
Emily Gorman, Liz Kerr, and Kathrina Alexander are attending the CAP Residents Forum in San Antonio, TX, February 25th-26th. We wish them good luck as they continue to provide pathology residents with a strong voice in organized pathology.

Adams Grant

Congratulations to the latest recipients of the Adams Grant listed below.

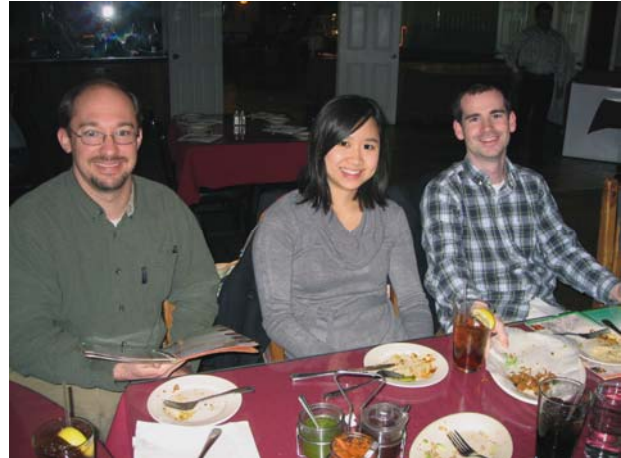
Rong Li with faculty mentor Dr. Margaret Brandwein -Gensler are investigating expression of p16 protein in salivary mucoepidermoid carcinoma and its correlation with high risk human papillomavirus transcripts.

Chris Kragel is investigating somatic mutations in GNAQ and KIT genes in sinonasal melanomas along with faculty mentor Dr. Aleodor Andea.

Resident Socials

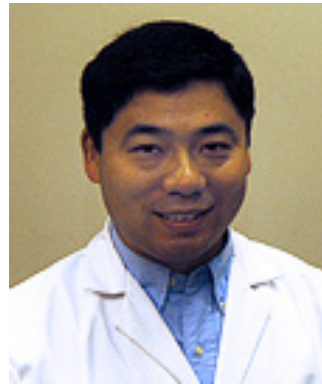
The residents continue to meet every other month for a resident social. The latest social was at Silver Coin Indian Restaurant in

Hoover. A good time was had by all.....



Jason Wicker, Thuy Nguyen, and Johnny Ross (Left to Right) at Silver Coin

A Special Thanks to.....



Dr. Zengang Pan for freely giving many hours of his personal time and devoting it to resident teaching. Dr. Pan has put together a resident favorite Pathology Board Review series which takes place every Tuesday at 5PM. Additionally, he holds a PIP slide review session every Wednesday at 5PM. We really appreciate all the hard work!!!

From the Graduate Students:

Accolades/Awards:

Angela Gullard—submitted and received funding for an F30 Individual Predoctoral Fellowship application for the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (Kirschstein-NRSA) in August 2010. This grant will support both clinical and research training components for 5 years during her training in the DMD/PhD program.

Angela's abstract entitled "Dental Alterations Associated with Hyperactive TGF- β 1 in Camurati-Engelmann Disease" was selected for the basic science category in the 2011 AADR Student Research Group Dentsply/Caulk competition, which will be held at the IADR General Session in San Diego, CA this March.

Angela was also nominated to represent UAB internationally to compete for Graduate Student Awards to attend the 61st Meeting of Nobel

Laureates in Lindau, Germany.

Seth Levy—was awarded the predoctoral fellowship position on the Center for Metabolic Bone Disease NIH Institutional Training Grant entitled Comprehensive Training Grant in Bone Biology and Disease, the title is "Cell and Gene Therapy for Non-union Fractures"

Publications/Presentations:

Angelina Londano Joshi—will present at the 33rd Annual CTRC-AACR San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, Dec 8-11.

Angelina will also present at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Science Education Alliance and National Genomics Research Initiative, In Silico Workshop, at the Janelia Farm Research Campus, Ashburn, VA on December 13-17.

Yanna Ding—Her poster titled "CXCL13 signals through CXCR5 to

upregulate Bcl-6 and promote the development of Follicular T Helper Cells in Autoimmune BXD2 Mice" was marked as notable poster at ACR meeting in Atlanta, Nov. 2010.

Upcoming Events:

Molecular and Cellular Pathology Summer PREP Program
May 23, 2011 – July 29, 2011

General News:



2011 Spring Commencement
May 7, 2011

Final Student Account Payment Deadline
February 15, 2011

Summer 2011 Class Registration Begins
March 28, 2011

Graduate Program Director:

Rakesh Patel, Ph.D.

Graduate Program Support:

Nicole Newton

934-2445

Marisa Marques Receives UAB's 2011 Outstanding Woman Faculty Member Award



Marisa Marques, M.D., Professor of Pathology and Section Head, Transfusion Medicine will

receive the 2011 Becky Trigg Outstanding Women Faculty Member Award. This is one of the highest level awards bestowed by UAB. This award recognizes two of her past contributions. First, she is recognized for her extensive contributions

to the career development of students, residents, fellows, and faculty. Her mentoring skills, which have changed lives and careers, were acknowledged in numerous testimonials from the individuals, whose careers and decisions she has influenced and guided. Second, she was recognized for her courageous leadership within the UAB Health System, which changed a long-standing transfusion medicine practice, resulting in thousands of donor red cell units not being transfused. This changed practice has resulted in improved patient safety

and reduced waste of a valuable blood resource. Her work in red cell transfusion management has received considerable national acclaim. Marisa is the second Department of Pathology woman faculty member to receive this award. The first recipient was Dr. Ona Faye-Petersen. The award ceremony for Dr. Marques will be held at the UAB Great Hall (adjacent to the Hill University Center) on March 10 at 4:30 pm.

Pathology Grant Awards Cont'd...

XU FENG

DOO

Potential Role of CD68 in Breast Cancer Bone Metastasis

\$124,950 1/01/2011-02/28/12

ROBINNA LORENZ

NIH

Short Term Training in Health Professional Schools

\$207,759 06/01/10-05/31/11

ROBINNA LORENZ

NIH

Project 2—Innate and Adaptive Microbial Immunity in IBD (PPG)

\$187,710 09/01/10-08/31/11

RAKESH PATEL

Theravasc, LLC

Nitrite and Nitrite Measurements in PAD Patients Treated with Nitrite Therapy

\$19,200 04/01/10-04/01/12

JOHN SHACKA

VA

Cellular Mechanisms of Neuropathology in Parkinson's Disease

\$500,000 10/01/10-09/30/13

JOHN SHACKA

VA-IPA

Kathryn Davidson

\$67,504 10/01/10-09/30/12

JOHN SHACKA

VA-IPA

Dee Parsons

\$10,585 10/01/10-09/30/12

JOHN SHACKA

VA-IPA

Yanwen Liu

\$108,000 12/01/10-11/30/12

If anyone has any news items, accolades, etc. to be put in the quarterly newsletter, please send it to the Path In Focus e-mail address at:

pathinfocus@uab.edu.

Thank you.

Blood Drive
North Pavilion Atrium

Wednesday, February 9 10:00 am—5:00 pm

Thursday, February 10 10:00 am—5:00 pm

Friday, February 11 7:00 am—2:00 pm

Chance to win Valentine's gift basket or
1 of 3 \$ 50 giftcards

