

Inside this issue:

Faculty Profile—	
Dr. Patel	2
Spotlight on Administration	3
From the Chief Residents	4-9
2016 William Boyd Medal in Pathology	10
11 th Annual Pathology Trainee Research Day	11-12
Accolades	13-15
Pathology Publications	16
Pathology Grants Awarded	17
ACLPS 2016	18
Funds Solicitation	19-20

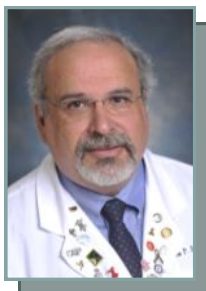
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Message from the Interim Chair:



New York Values

It is spring – the time of renewal and rebirth and the election season is in full swing and with it my depression and fear mounts. Sure you could, and most do, write it off to theatre – the theatre of the absurd – to be sure - but I can't or won't! Actually, I was holding it together pretty well during all the minimally masked hate speech – until I heard that one little phrase – New York Values – and I knew it was here yet again. For me and my family spring also means 2 events – the holiday of Passover which tells the story of the Hebrews freedom from bondage and Holocaust Remembrance Day.

At this point you're probably saying, "Wait I'm lost! What do these seemingly random thoughts have to do with each other and with Pathology at UAB?" Please allow me to explain:

During the traditional Passover meal – the Seder – a book called the Haggadah is read which summarizes the second book of the Torah-the Old Testament-Exodus and it contains these 2 sentences which frightened the hell out of me as a child (and if the truth be told still does today): "This is the promise that has sustained our ancestors and us. For it was not one enemy alone who rose up against us to destroy us; in each generation there are those who rise up against us and seek to destroy us." The Holocaust is perhaps just the most recent example of this for most of us baby boomers but the "us" in that statement is "you" too. Don't believe me? – it's at your own peril. "I am not a Mexican, I am not a Muslim, I'm not Gay" - this is what my acquaintances say to me today, but I remember perhaps the most famous poem of the Holocaust period "First They Came" by Pastor Martin Niemöller. I quote an abridged version from Wikipedia:

"First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out -
Because I was not a Socialist.

Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out -
Because I was not Trade Unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out -
Because I was not a Jew.

And then they came for me--and there was no one left to speak for me."

Pastor Niemöller survived Dachau and became a leading light of the "Penance and Reconciliation Movement" in the postwar period. Most of the others, 11 million by some counts did not have that opportunity.

We are a fantastically rich and diverse Department of Pathology filled with faculty and housestaff of every imaginable variety. This did not occur because of luck or happenstance – it happened because the Departmental leadership shared – what could I call it? – I know – New York Values. We are the best of what of America offers, the ability to succeed and to care for ourselves and strangers independent of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, country of origin or creed. We literally can trace our near ancestors to Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and the Middle East. We practice a half dozen religions or none at all, we are foreign nationals or sixth generation Americans and hopefully, irrespective of that, we all share New York Values and so can respectfully argue points of difference including politics. I trust at the end of the day we can serve as an example of the best of New York Values and demonstrate it at the ballot box – peacefully – I am going to vote, and in that way stand-up – I, always do, – it's part of my New York Values.

Faculty Profile:

Rakesh Patel, PhD is a Professor in the Department of Pathology, and Director of the UAB Center for Free Radical Biology. Rakesh has served as the Department's Graduate Program director since 2008 and also co-directed the Pathobiology and Molecular Medicine theme in the Graduate Biomedical Sciences, between 2011 and 2016, and is currently director of the NIGMS funded pre-doctoral T32 program in Translational and Molecular Sciences. He has served as an Associate editor for the American Journal of Physiology (2012-2015), is currently reviews editor for the Nitric Oxide journal and serves on the editorial board for the Free Radical Biology and Medicine journal since 2000. He was Chair of the Gordon Research Conference on Oxygen Radicals (2016); Co-chair for the 8th International Conference on the Biology, Chemistry and Therapeutic action of Nitric oxide and has organized symposia, workshops and schools at Experimental Biology and Society for Redox Biology Meetings. Rakesh has served on peer review panels for the American Heart Association, the American Diabetes Association and for NIH RO1, training grants, program project grants and SBIR grants. His work has been funded by NIH, American Heart Association, and various industry contracts/grants for pre-clinical testing to Phase 2 research clinical trials.



Rakesh was born in England and raised in Finchley, a suburb of London known for being Margaret Thatcher's constituency. In the British education system, at 16y of age, students have to decide what courses to matriculate in during the last 2 years of high school which in turn determines the degree you could apply for in college. This turns out to be a key career making decision therefore. Rakesh chose biology, chemistry and math, not because he knew he wanted to be in a science-related career, but simply because those were the topics he would get higher grades in. He went to the University of Essex in Colchester, the oldest recorded Roman town in Britain where he obtained his BSc (Hons) in Biochemistry. It was his final year lab project that gave him his first real exposure to research and more importantly to mentoring from Mike Wilson, PhD, into whose lab he subsequently joined to pursue his PhD. For his PhD, Rakesh received a Case-studentship award that allowed him to perform his research both at the University, but also with a collaborator and co-mentor in industry. This partnership was with Victor Darley-Usmar who at the time was at Wellcome Pharmaceuticals in London, and a former trainee from the Wilson lab also. Rakesh obtained his PhD in 1996 and then joined the Department of Pathology at UAB as a post-doctoral fellow in January 1997 to work on a collaborative project between Victor Darley-Usmar PhD (Pathology) and Stephen Barnes PhD (Pharmacology and Toxicology). What was supposed to be a 3y sojourn in the US has turned into 20y and counting. A constant theme of his research has been heme and free radical biochemistry which his lab is currently investigating in the context of transfusion toxicity. In addition, he has active collaborative research projects in the areas of endothelial function / dysfunction, environmental exposure to irritants, lung injury and nitric oxide therapeutics.

Outside the lab, Rakesh is involved in the local soccer scene, by actively playing (and then getting injured), coaching and in the past refereeing also. He is also fond of jumping out of planes and getting angry at golf balls. But most of his time outside of work is spent trying to explain the rules of cricket, the subtleties of Bollywood movies and how to spell the word 'color' with the letter 'u' to his wife Rhea and their adorable boys Akhil (8y) and Dylan (7y).

Spotlight on Administration:

Constance Brown is an OAll in the Division of MCP where she assists Drs. Selvarangan Ponnazhagan, Rajeev Samant, and Shannon Bailey. Constance started working for UAB in 1998 as a temporary employee in International Services, which became a permanent position shortly after. In 2000 she took a leave of absence to care for her new twin girls. She returned to UAB in 2002 in the Department of Facilities where she was responsible for assisting Project Managers with daily tasks and remained there for 13 years before her position in the Pathology Department.



Affectionately called “Connie” by her family and friends, she is the mother of 4 children, Ashley (20) Paul (18) and twins Joycelyn and Jayla Brown. She is passionate about her children. This is evident in the countless hours supporting their involvement on such teams as basketball, baseball and volleyball. Ashley is a sophomore at South Alabama, Paul is a senior at Helena High School and the twins are sophomores at Minor High School. There is never a boring moment at the Brown household.

Constance is a woman of faith who relies solely on God. She is a member of Love Fellowship Christian Center in Adamsville under Pastor Rodney Standfield, where she is both a Praise and Worship leader and Youth Leader. She also serves as Praise and Worship leader at Love Fellowship in Hueytown for their 8:15 service.

In her spare time Constance is a solo artist who shares her gifts and talents in multiple areas: weddings, funerals, banquets, and church events. She is currently working on the release of her own CD which will be coming out in the next year. Her ultimate dream and goal is to return to school and major in music to enhance the talents she knows she has been given to share with others.

From the Chief Residents: Abha Soni and Virginia Duncan

We want to thank the outgoing chief residents, Jessica and Brandi, for an excellent year. Ginger and I are excited about the upcoming year and want to congratulate the new residents joining our program this July! Also, we would like to wish the fourth years taking AP/CP boards good luck. Your hard work will pay off soon!

Our seven new residents are:

Paul Boothe – University of Alabama at Birmingham

Adam Jones- University of Alabama at Birmingham

Erin Baumgartner- University of Louisville School of Medicine

Bo Chen- Qingdao University College of Medicine

Danielle Fasciano- Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine

Anish Kurundkar- Government Medical College Aurangabad

Morad Qarmali- King Abdulaziz University College of Medicine and Allied Sciences

Thank you! We are looking forward to a great year!

~ Ginger and Abha (Chief Residents 2016-2017)

ACCOLADES:

Dr. Vishwas Parekh was recently appointed as the Section Editor for social media for the Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine. The Archives has the largest circulation of any general pathology journal in the world, and per Nielsen media, it is the most highly read journal/periodical title among US practicing pathologists.

FELLOWSHIPS:

Virginia Duncan- Seattle Children's Hospital- Pediatric Pathology Fellowship, 2017-2018.

Briana Gibson- University of North Carolina Chapel Hill- Blood Bank Fellowship, 2017-2018.

Gabe Koenig- University of Alabama at Birmingham- Hematopathology Fellowship, 2017-2018.

Melissa Dillard-Cockerell Dermatopathology- Dermatopathology Fellowship, 2017-2018.

Abha Soni- Johns Hopkins Medical Center- Dermatopathology Fellowship, 2017-2019.

Tiansheng Shen- MD Anderson Cancer Center- Surgical Pathology Fellowship, 2017-2018.

Jessica Tracht- Emory University-GI Pathology, 2017-2018.

Rebekah McIntosh- University of Alabama at Birmingham, Dermatopathology Fellowship, 2017-2018.

Forest Huls- University of Michigan, Hematopathology Fellowship, 2017-2018

ORAL PRESENTATIONS:

Dr. Tiffany Graham will present "The Feasibility and Implications of Limiting Red Blood Cell Transfusions to Units Less Than 35 Days Old" at the 2016 ACLPS meeting.

Dr. Abha Soni will present "Implementation and Development of a Web-Based Application for Red Cell Exchange Calculations" at the 2016 ACLPS meeting.

Dr. Zheng Ping will present "High Frequency of Mutations in Genes Encoding Factor VIII, VWF and ADAMTS13 in Cutaneous Melanoma" at the 2016 ACLPS meeting (**Received Paul E. Strandjord Young Investigator Award from ACLPS**).

Dr. Virginia Duncan will present "Usage pattern of 4-factor prothrombin complex concentrate in a tertiary care center" at the 2016 ACLPS meeting.

Dr. Abha Soni presented "Solar Keratosis of the Nailbed with Progression to Squamous Cell Carcinoma" at the 2016 ISDP meeting-Dermatopathology World Cup.

Dr. Zheng Ping presented "Are VWF, factor VIII and ADAMTS13 associated with cancer progression?" at the UAB Pathology research day (**Received outstanding research presentation award**).

From the Chief Residents Cont'd....

POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

Dr. Ruby Ma presented a poster titled "Up-regulated S100A4 Is Associated with Tumor Progression in Signet-Ring Cell Carcinoma" with faculty mentors Dr. Wei and Dr. Siegal at **USCAP 2016**.

Dr. Jessica Tracht presented a poster titled "Identifying Additional Lymph Nodes in Radical Prostatectomy Pelvic Lymph Node Specimens" with faculty mentor Dr. Gordetsky at **USCAP 2016**.

Dr. Briana Gibson presented a poster titled "Occult Metastases in Pelvic Lymph Nodes Removed During Radical Cystectomy for Urothelial Carcinoma" with faculty mentor Dr. Jennifer Gordetsky at **USCAP 2016 (accepted for publication in Urology)**.

Dr. Abha Soni presented a poster titled "Cutaneous Metastasis of Hepatocellular Carcinoma with no Known Primary at Presentation" with faculty mentor Dr. Peter Pavlidakey at **ISDP 2016**.

Dr. David Ullman presented a poster titled "Trichoblastic Carcinoma" with faculty mentors Dr. Peter Pavlidakey, Dr. Andra Frost, and Dr. Ronald Sanders at **ISDP 2016**.

Dr. Virginia Duncan presented a poster titled "RUNX3: A New Prognostic Marker in Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma?" with faculty mentor Dr. Deniz Peker at **USCAP 2016**. This has been published in Leukemia & Lymphoma Journal May 2016

Dr. Tiansheng Shen presented the following posters with faculty mentors Dr. Wei and Dr. Siegal at **USCAP 2016**:

1. "The prognostic value of E-cadherin and β -catenin in triple negative breast cancer (TNBC)."
2. "Characterization of Estrogen Receptor Positive/Progesterone Receptor Negative/(ER+/PR) Breast Cancer (BC)."
3. "Clinicopathologic factors associated with metastatic breast cancer (BC) at presentation."

Dr. Zheng Ping presented a poster titled "Genomic Characterization of "CDH1- Unaltered" Invasive Lobular Carcinoma of the Breast" with faculty mentors Dr. Gene P Siegal, Dr. Shuko Harada and Dr. Dejun Shen at **USCAP 2016. (Received Honorable Mention in the Basic Award Category Breast Pathology from International Society of Breast Pathology, top 3 out of 23 abstracts)**

Dr. Zheng Ping presented a poster titled "Genomic Abnormalities Correlated with French-American-British (FAB) Subtypes of Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)" with faculty mentors Dr. Vishnu VB Reddy and Dr. Dejun Shen.

Dr. Vishwas Parekh presented a poster titled "Regional metastasis in atypical fibroxanthoma without worrisome features." with faculty mentors Dr. Stevens, Dr. Pavlidakey and Dr. McKay at **ISDP 2016**.

Dr. Vishwas Parekh presented a poster titled "An unusual cutaneous presentation of plasma cell dyscrasia." with faculty mentor Dr. Pavlidakey at **ISDP 2016**.

MANUSCRIPTS

Dr. Vishwas Parekh published "Posterior Mediastinal Adenomatoid Tumor-A Case Report and Review of the Literature" in Case Reports in Pathology with faculty mentors Dr. Winokur and Dr. Stevens.

Dr. Vishwas Parekh published "CD123 immunohistochemistry for plasmacytoid dendritic cells is useful in the diagnosis of scarring alopecia." in Journal of Cutaneous Pathology with faculty mentor Dr. McKay.

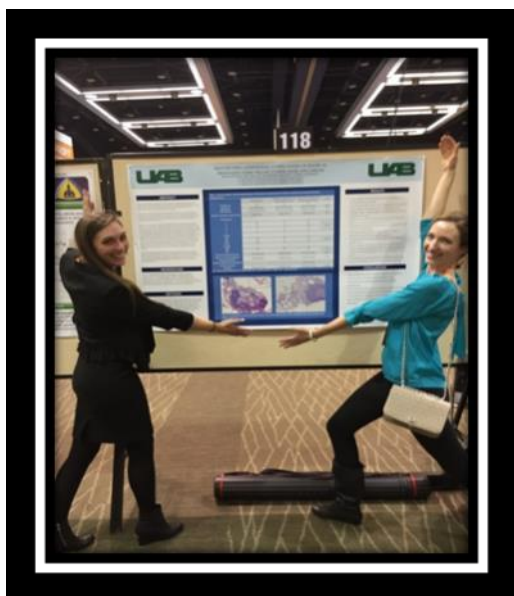
From the Chief Residents Cont'd....



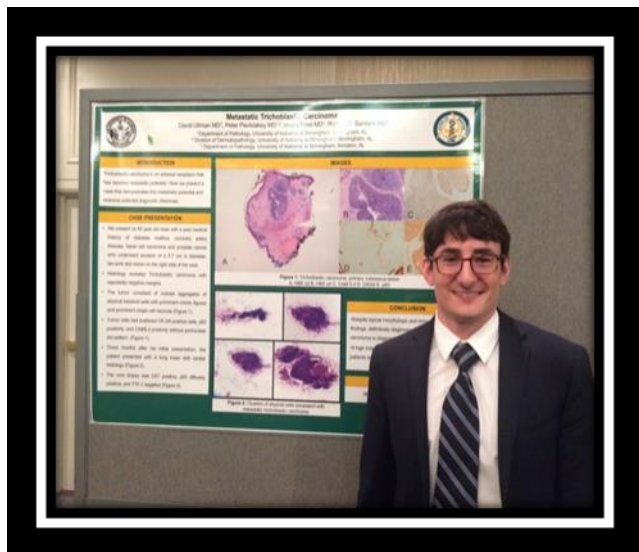
*Say cheese Ginger and Ruby!
Don't forget Dr. Gordetsky
(bottom right)!*



Celebrating Dr. Conner's birthday!



Residents representing UAB at USCAP and celebrating with the attendings in Seattle, Washington.

From the Chief Residents Cont'd....

Dr. Ullman presenting at ISDP 2016



Residents at USCAP 2016 in Seattle, Washington



Dr. Dorn presenting his Lab Medicine Seminar

From the Chief Residents Cont'd....



Resident Social-Feb 2016.



From the Chief Residents Cont'd....

Dr. Reilly (left) and Dr. Soni's (right) paintings displayed at the AOA art competition and auction benefiting VSA Alabama

2016 William Boyd Medal in Pathology

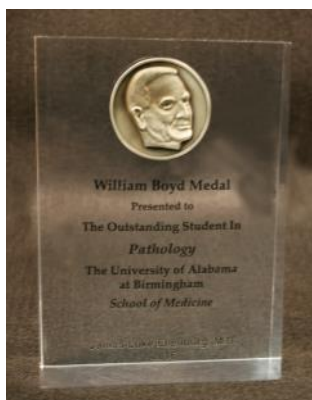
James Luke Ellenburg, M.D. Recipient of the 2016 William Boyd Medal in Pathology



J. Luke Ellenburg, M.D. recently received the William Boyd Medal at the University of Alabama School of Medicine Dean's Award Luncheon. Luke will be staying here at UAB in the Urology Residency program. Luke grew up in Arab, Alabama and he attended Samford University where he graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He then attended the University of Alabama School of Medicine, where he was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society during his fourth year and graduated *cum laude*. An interest in surgery and the pathogenesis of urologic diseases attracted Luke to the field of Urology. As a medical student he was able to further explore his interests by working with several UAB urology residents and faculty on various research projects and participate in pathology electives. In his free time, he enjoys running, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

The Boyd Medal has been awarded continuously since 1967 and is given on behalf of the Alabama Association of Pathologists and the faculty of the UAB

Department of Pathology to the graduating medical student whose performance in Pathology throughout their medical school career has been most outstanding. This award was named in honor of Dr. William Boyd who is considered by many to be one of the fathers of pathology education. Dr. Boyd was born in Portsoy Scotland in 1885 and obtained his medical degree in 1908 at Edinburgh. He was a medical officer in the First World War and published his first book, *With a Field Ambulance at Ypres* in 1916, about that war experience. He then moved to Canada where he rose to the rank of professor of pathology at University Manitoba, and later moved to the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia. After retiring from UBC he came to UAB as a visiting professor from 1955 to 1962. Dr. Boyd published 7 textbooks, one of which was the first pathology text to emphasize pathophysiology and pathogenesis rather than just morphology. This text was popular word-wide and went through 20 editions. Dr. Boyd was once referred to as: "The Pathologist with a silver tongue and a golden pen."



Congratulations to Dr. Luke Ellenburg for winning this prestigious award.

11th Annual Pathology Trainee Research Day: Celebrating cutting edge research

It was a crisp day on March 18th. On that fabulous Friday morning our Department celebrated the innovative and trailblazing research of our trainees. The event took place at the newly renovated Hill University Center Ball Rooms with state-of-the-art meeting facilities. The interactions and celebrations were fostered by the delightful assortments of food and treats throughout the day. Most importantly, we witnessed highly enthusiastic participation from graduate students, residents, research associates and postdoctoral fellows who used this opportunity to showcase their most exciting research and highlight their laboratories' accomplishments.

Keeping with the tradition, we invited one of our accomplished past trainees, Dr. Dario Vitturi, from the Department of Pharmacology & Chemical Biology, University of Pittsburgh. With his impeccable skills and tongue-in-cheek humor, Dario's former mentor, Dr. Rakesh Patel introduced his former trainee. Dario presented his fascinating career journey and life lessons on becoming a scientist.

The day was filled with presentations from over 45 abstracts in 2 poster sessions and 6 talks. We **congratulate** the award winners:

Outstanding Posters:

Monica Lewis,
Jaleesa Wright,
Helen Collins,
Joo-Hyoung Lee
and Tiansheng Shen

Oral Presentations:

Hawley Pruitt,
Jennifer Valcin,
Jonathan Hensel,
Brady Spencer,
Zheng Ping
and Youfeng Yang



Timothy Trotter received the coveted Pritchett award for outstanding poster presentation of cancer focused research.

The trainee organizing committee, Matthew Ryan Smith, Timothy Trotter, Hawley Pruitt, Helen Collins, Tao Guo, and Melissa Sammy worked tirelessly with a strong, behind-the-scenes support from Cindy Brown, MCP administration, to make this event a great success.



11th Annual Pathology Trainee Research Day Cont'd....

Accolades

Shannon Bailey -

Jennifer Valcin, a third-year Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics (GGB) doctoral student working in the lab of Dr. Shannon Bailey, was invited to give an oral presentation at the 2016 Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, California.

With the assistance of the UAB Department of Pathology Trainee Travel Award, Jennifer was able to attend the Experimental Biology meeting and share her work in an American Physiological Society special topic session titled: "Chronic Liver Diseases Modulated by Transcriptional and Translational Mechanisms."

Jennifer presented some of her dissertation research in a presentation titled: "Chronic Alcohol Consumption Alters Rhythms in Key Enzymes and Transcription Factors Involved in Lipid Metabolism: Potential Role of the Circadian Clock." Her studies demonstrate that chronic alcohol consumption disrupts hepatic triglyceride metabolism in the liver by disrupting diurnal oscillations of critical triglyceride metabolism and signaling regulatory genes and proteins that are under control of the molecular circadian clock. This work provides new insights regarding the mechanisms by which chronic alcohol-mediated disruption of the clock contributes to fatty liver disease development.

John Chatham -

Helen Collins, Postdoctoral Fellow in Dr. Chatham's lab, has received the following awards:

- Department of Pathology \$500 Travel Award for 2016
- Poster Presentation Award at Pathology Trainee Research Day on March 18, 2016, entitled, "Lack of cardiomyocyte STIM1 significantly alters the kinome of the mouse heart"
- Selected to give an oral presentation (and poster presentation) at the 7th Annual UAB Diabetes Research Day
- Received the Office of Postdoctoral Education 2016 mentoring certificate

JaLessa Wright, Graduate Student in Dr. Chatham's lab, received a Recognition of Outstanding Research Presentation Award at the Pathology Trainee Research Day on March 18, 2016 for her poster presentation entitled, "Role of O-GlcNAcylation on Regulating Mitochondrial Function in Cardiomyocytes."

Isam-Elden Eltoum -

Dr. Rohini Chennuri, Cytopathology fellow presented at USCAP. Her title was "Trends in Rates of Failure of Care in Women with Invasive Cervical Cancer: A Meta-Analysis."

Ona Faye-Petersen -

Elected President of Society for Pediatric Pathology. The Society for Pediatric Pathology, founded in 1965, is an educational and scientific organization of physicians and scientists who share a common interest in this vital field. Over 700 members of the Society practice in more than 60 Children's Hospitals, Community Hospitals and University Hospitals of the United States, Canada and throughout the world. It is the aim of the Society to foster research, education, and practice as they pertain to pediatric pathology, and to provide a forum for discourse among its members.

Gave short Course at USCAP in Seattle: "Pathology of the Fetus and Stillborn infant for the General Pathologist " with Dr. Debra Heller, of New Jersey SOM Rutgers

Andra Frost -

Kayla Goliwas, a graduate student in Dr. Frost's lab, won first place in Session #13 at the UAB Graduate Student Research Days, on March 11, 2016, for her platform presentation "Three Dimensional Modeling of Breast Carcinoma Using a Novel Perfusion Bioreactor System." Kayla is in her 4th year of the Cancer Biology Program and is completing her thesis work in Dr. Frost's lab.

Robert Hardy -

Elected Association of Clinical Scientists President Elect

Accolades Cont'd....

Rajeev Samant -

Served as a mentor for Grant writing workshop to provide grant writing and career advice to young investigators. This was an activity conducted as a part of the American Association for Cancer Research annual meeting that was held at New Orleans April 16-20, 2016.

Hawley Pruitt, Graduate Student in Dr. Samant's lab, presented a poster at the American Association for Cancer Research annual meeting in a session titled Mechanisms of Tumorigenesis in Animal Models of Cancer.

Rajasekaran Namakkal-Soorappan -

Gave an oral presentation in the Emerging Paradigms in Redox Signaling session in Oxygen Radicals - Gordon Research Conference at Ventura, California in February, 2016. He has also been invited to present his work in the 9th International NO Conference, Japan, in May 20-22, 2016.

Dr. Gobinath Shanmugam attended and presented in the Gordon Research Seminar – Oxygen Radicals 2016 (February 6-7, 2016) in Ventura, California, an abstract entitled "Chronic Oxidative Stress Induces Pathological Ventricular Remodeling in Nrf2 Deficient Mice."

Gene Siegal - Skeletal Radiology awarded Dr. Siegal a "Certificate of Distinction" in recognition of his contribution to the Journal as a reviewer of distinction. This signifies that in quantity, timeliness, and quality his work on behalf of the Journal was above and beyond the call of duty.

Ken Waites -

Dr. Waites has been selected for the Emmy Klieneberger-Nobel Award for his prominent and sustained scientific contributions in a wide range of mycoplasma research, particularly on *Ureaplasma* pathogenicity, epidemiology, antibiotic susceptibility and resistance, and on diagnostic assessments of mycoplasmas and ureaplasmas by standardization of susceptibility testing of human mollicutes and comparative studies of antimicrobial reagents.

"I am quite elated to receive this honor as it is the highest award representing achievements in scientific research in mycoplasma that can be bestowed from this organization that represents scientists from all over the world."

The nominees this year were from Japan, Switzerland, and Dr. Waites. Selection is made by voting of an international committee of scientists appointed to the awards selection committee by the organization's chairman, many of whom are themselves recipients of previous awards. Since the award was established in 1976, there has been a scientist selected every two years to deliver the award lecture at the IOM Congress which will be held in July of this year in Brisbane, Australia. Dr. Waites is the tenth person from the USA to receive this award and the second UAB faculty member (Gail Cassell, former Chair of the UAB Department of Microbiology, received this award in 2006). His lecture is tentatively titled "Ureaplasma Infections of the Urogenital Tract and Beyond, Observations Over Five Decades from a Clinical Laboratory Perspective." Dr. Waites has been studying these organisms for five decades since beginning his work with them in the late 1970s and he plans to summarize what he has learned and how it is now being applied to diagnostic medicine. Four people from his lab are planning to attend the IOM Congress in Australia with Dr. Waites.

X. Long Zheng -

Dr. Jenny McDaniel, Hematology/Oncology Fellow in Dr. Zheng's lab, was awarded the Dixon Fellowship Award. The Dixon Fellowship was created in 1988, with the help of the Edwin Dixon family of Birmingham, AL. The Fellowship is a competitive award for subspecialty training, is fellow friendly, and lasts from one to two years in duration. In addition to the stipend, the fellowship provides annual discretionary funds (\$5K). The Department of Pediatrics matches 50 percent of the total award. There are five Dixon Fellow training slots. Since the establishment of the fellowship, 60 awards have been given. Of the fellow awardees, 27 are now active faculty within the Department. Among the alumni there are six Division Chiefs, six Endowed Chairs, one Clerkship Director, four Division Fellowship Program Directors, one Residency Training Program Co-Director, one Center Director and one Associate Dean.

A Jefferson County physician has been awarded the nation's most prestigious award for medical examiners. [al.com](#)

Dr. Gregory G. Davis, Jefferson County's chief coroner/medical examiner, received the 2016 Milton Helpern Award from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Davis took over the county position following the 2013 death of longtime Jefferson County Medical Examiner Robert Brissie Brissie had been the medical examiner since 1980.



Davis accepted the award at the AAFS's 68th Annual Scientific Meeting held in late February in Nevada. He is also the director of the Forensic Division of UAB's Department of Pathology.

"I was humbled, to see all of the previous recipients and to think I would be considered by my peers worthy of being on that list," Davis said. "I didn't grasp how big it was until I looked and saw what all it entailed. I've just been doing my work."

Davis has held multiple offices with the AAFS and served on many committees with the association. The husband, and father of two daughters, attended college and medical school at Vanderbilt University, and also completed his pathology residency there. He did his forensic pathology fellowship at the San Diego County

Medical Examiner's Office and obtained his Master of Science in Public Health from UAB. He joined the Jefferson County Coroner/ Medical Examiner's Office in 1993.

His most noted published articles include a comparison of heart mass in seizure patients dying of sudden unexplained death in epilepsy to sudden death due to some other cause, the relationship of drug abuse to unexplained sudden death, recommendations for the investigation, diagnosis, and certification deaths related to opioid drugs.

The Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office investigates about 25% of the deaths occurring in Jefferson County. Notification is made when there is suspicion of criminal violence or criminal neglect, when death occurs in suspicious or unusual circumstances and when deaths are thought to result from trauma or violence.

Milton Helpern was the most famous chief medical examiner for the City of New York, called " Sherlock Holmes with a microscope." Born in East Harlem, Helpern joined the New York City Medical Examiner office in 1931 and became its chief in 1954. During his 20-year tenure, he performed over 20,000 autopsies, and was also a key witness in some infamous murder trials. He died in 1977 at the age of 75.

Pathology Publications:

Victor Darley-USmar -

Publication from the Mitochondrial Medicine group in Cell metabolism reveals a new effect of mitochondria controlling inflammatory mediators in platelets and a new mode of action for aspirin.

[Study-shows-how-different-people-respond-to-aspirin-an-important-cardioprotective-drug](#)

Rajeev Samant -

Hawley Pruitt published a review article for the International Journal of Cancer (the official journal of the Union for International Cancer Control – UICC)

Pruitt HC, Devine DJ, **Samant RS**. [Roles of N-Myc and STAT Interactor in Cancer: From Initiation to Dissemination](#).

Int J Cancer. 2016 Feb 13. doi: 10.1002/ijc.30043

Lalita Shevde-Samant -

Morrow, K. A., Das, S., Meng, E., Menezes M. E., Bailey, S. K., Metge, B. M., Buchsbaum, D. J., Samant, R. S., **Shevde, L. A.**
Loss of tumor suppressor Merlin results in aberrant activation of Wnt/β-catenin signaling in cancer. *Oncotarget*, 2016.
doi: 10.18632/oncotarget. PMID: [26908451](#).

Hanna, A. and **Shevde, L.A.** *Hedgehog signaling: modulation of cancer and the microenvironment*. *Molecular Cancer* 15(1):24, 2016. PMID: [26988232](#).

Rajasekaran Namakkal-Soorappan-

FASEB Journal entitled “Disruption of nuclear factor (erythroid-derived-2)-like 2 antioxidant signaling: a mechanism for impaired activation of stem cells and delayed regeneration of skeletal muscle.” Authors: Madhusudhanan Narasimhan, Gobinath Shanmugam, Silvio Hector Litovsky, Sellamuthu S. Gounder, Goutam Karan, Cinnasamy Arulvasu, Thomas W. Kensler, John R. Hoidal, Victor Darley-USmar, Rajasekaran Namakkal-Soorappan. *FASEB J*. 2016 May;30(5):1865-79. doi: 10.1096/fj.201500153. Epub 2016 Feb 2.

Journal of Translational medicine entitled “Abrogation of Nrf2 impairs antioxidant signaling and promotes atrial hypertrophy in response to high-intensity exercise stress.” Authors: Radhakrishnan Rajesh Kumar*, Madhusudhanan Narasimhan*, Gobinath Shanmugam*, Asokan Devarajan, Sethu Palaniappan, Jianhua Zhang, Ganesh V. Halade, Victor M. Darley-USmar, John R. Hoidal, **Rajasekaran Namakkal-Soorappan**. *co-first authors. *J Transl Med*. 2016 Apr 5;14(1):86. doi: [10.1186/s12967-016-0839-3](#).

Soory Varambally -

Chakravarthi BV, Nepal S and **Varambally S**. Genomic and epigenetic alterations in cancer. *Am J Pathol*. In press.

Chakravarthi BV, Goswami MT, Pathi S, Robinson AD, Cieřlik M, Chandrashekar DS, Agarwal S, Siddiqui J, Daignault S, Carskadon SL, Jing X, Chinnaiyan AM, Kunju LP, Palanisamy N, **Varambally S**. MicroRNA-101 regulated transcriptional modulator SUB1 plays a role in prostate cancer. *Oncogene*, In Press.

Dr. Varambally also co-authored a paper that appeared in *Nature Medicine*. *Nat Med*. 2016 Mar;22(3):298-305.

PMID: 26855148. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26855148>

Pathology Grants Awarded...

HUY PHAM & LANCE WILLIAMS*UAB Faculty Development Grant**ADAMTS13 as Risk Factors for Cardiac Disease*

\$10,000 05/15/16 - 08/30/17

SELVARANGAN PONNAZHAGAN*UAB/School of Medicine (AMC21)*

Cell and Gene Therapy for Nonunion Fractures

\$50,000 04/01/16 - 03/31/17

RAJEEV SAMANT

NIH

Dietary Intervention of Non-Classical Wnt Signaling

R01 CA194048

\$336,263 04/01/16 - 03/31/21

X LONG ZHENG

NIH

Novel Therapeutics for Acquired Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic
Purpura

R01HL115187

\$377,202 06/01/16 - 05/31/17

LABORATORY MEDICINE – THE NEXT 50 YEARS

The 2016 Annual meeting of the Academy of Clinical Physicians and Scientists (ACLPS) co-hosted by the UAB Department of Pathology will meet in Birmingham from June 2-4. An integral part of the meeting is the opportunity for trainees and young faculty to present their work.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following UAB trainees who have had an abstract accepted:

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD WINNERS

Jenny McDaniel, X. Long Zheng.

“Synthetic Human Neutrophil Peptide (HNP) 1 Inhibits Platelet Adhesion and Aggregation on von Willebrand Factor (VWF)-Collagen Surface Under Arterial Shear Stress through Disulfide Bond Reduction Mechanism”

Vikram G. Pillai, Jialing Bao, Catherine B. Zander, Jenny K. McDaniel, Palaniaappan S. Chetty, Steven H. Seeholzer, Khalil Bdeir, Douglas B. Cines, and X. Long Zheng.

“Human Neutrophil Peptides (HNPs) Inhibit Proteolytic Cleavage of von Willebrand Factor by ADAMTS13: a Potential Link between Inflammation and Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura”

Zheng Ping, Huy P. Pham, Lance A. Williams, III, and X. Long Zheng.

“High Frequency of Mutations in Genes Encoding Factor VIII, VWF and ADAMTS13 in Cutaneous Melanoma”

Liang Zheng, Yingying Mao, Mandy Li, Xiangrong Dai, Benjamin Li, and X. Long Zheng.

“Therapeutic Efficacy of Anfibatide in a Murine Model of Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP)”

OTHER ORAL and POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Wenjing Cao, Huy P. Pham, Lawrence A. Williams, Rance C. Siniard, Robin G. Lorenz, Marisa B. Marques, and X. Long Zheng.

“Increased Plasma Levels of Human Neutrophil Peptides (HNPs) and Complement Activation Markers in Patients with Acquired Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP)”

Virginia Duncan, Lance A. Williams III, and Marisa B. Marques.

“Usage pattern of 4-factor prothrombin complex concentrate in a tertiary care center”

Alex Dussaq, Christian Sackhouse, G. Yancey Gillespie, Christine W. Duarte, Xiangqin Cui, Degui Zhi, Joshua C. Anderson, Vinodh Srivas, Jonas Almeida, Christopher Willey.

“Creation of an Analytical Platform for Integrative Molecular Profiling of Glioblastoma Xenolines”

Alexander Feldman, Elizabeth M. Staley, Lance A. Williams III, Huy P. Pham, Robinna G. Lorenz.

“Platelet Transfusion Reactions with Respect to Transfusion Indications: A Single Center Analysis”

Tiffany Graham, Daniel B. Peavey, Tammy Gray, Marisa B. Marques.

“The Feasibility and Implications of Limiting Red Blood Cell Transfusions to Units Less Than 35 Days Old”

Benjamin Saylor, David Arndt, Marisa B. Marques.

“Testing for Platelet Antibody Does Not Predict Results of Platelet Cross-matching in Platelet- Refractory Patients”

Rance Siniard, Jennifer Burczyk-Brown, Kelly Godby, Harry Erba, Marisa B. Marques.

“Downward Platelet Utilization Trends for Patients with Acute Leukemia”

Abha Soni, Elizabeth Staley, Tim Kennells, Huy P. Pham, Lance A. Williams, Seung Park.

“Implementation and Development of a Web-Based Application for Red Cell Exchange Calculations”

Elizabeth M. Staley, Shelley Carruba, Malia Manning, Huy P. Pham, Lawrence A. Williams III, Marisa B. Marques, Jayme E. Locke, and Robin Lorenz.

“Anti-blood group antibodies in intravenous immunoglobulin may complicate interpretation of antibody titers in ABOi transplantation”

Yaolin Zhou, Elizabeth M. Staley, Brandi C. McCleskey, Benjamin Taylor, Robinna G. Lorenz.

“Paraneoplastic Panel Orders in the Context of an Existing Utilization Management Strategy”

Dear UAB Department of Pathology Friends and Colleagues:

The UAB Department of Pathology is recognized nationally for excellence in biomedical research, undergraduate and graduate medical education, and diagnostic pathology. This rise to prominence has been accomplished through the hard work and dedication of numerous Department of Pathology faculty and trainees who have made UAB a phenomenal environment for pathology education and clinical practice. Several decades ago, the former Departments of Anatomic Pathology and Clinical Pathology of the University of Alabama School of Medicine merged into a single Department of Pathology of the UAB Health System. More than 250 residents have received their graduate training in Pathology at UAB and have gone on to populate the state, region and the nation. In fact, the vast majority of Pathologists in the state of Alabama have received some or all of their training here at UAB. This program of excellence in graduate medical education has been appropriately balanced by a world-class graduate program that has similarly trained generations of scientists who fill academia, industry and government service. Our department has been bolstered in recent years by an ever increasing number of post-doctoral fellows, clinical fellows and junior faculty members who have achieved academic, research, and/or clinical excellence, and ascended to leadership positions at UAB or other institutions.

Please consider making a gift to the Department of Pathology at UAB to support our missions of clinical practice, teaching, research and service. Any amount would be most gratefully received and would be fully deductible*. One could direct it to a particular area of need, to fund current and future endowed professorships or create new awards, prizes or similar recognition opportunities to honor yourself, a family member, a favorite professor, etc.

We would be pleased to assist you and your professional advisors in including the UAB Department of Pathology in your estate plan or in exploring other giving strategies. A simple tear off sheet is found below.

* One should always check with their tax advisor.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this request.

Please fill out each of the 3 Sections:

A1—Enclosed, please find my contribution to the UAB Department of Pathology in the amount of:

☐ \$50
☐ \$100
☐ \$500
☐ \$1000
☐ Other: _____

Please make all checks payable to the UAB Department of Pathology and return them to Ms. Lynne Roden, Departmental Administrator, 500 22nd Street South; Suite JNWB 404, Birmingham, AL 35294-0500.

Cont'd...

A2—Please contact me to discuss further:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

*Please indicate your preferred means of communication.

B—I wish to direct this gift to the Department towards:

___ Where the need is the greatest

___ Teaching

___ Research

___ Named Chairs or Professorships

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___ Naming opportunities (Rooms, collections, equipment, etc.)

C—Person(s) and complete address to be acknowledged for tax purposes:

Do you want this gift to be anonymous? Yes ___ No ___

Do you want to honor a particular person or event?

Specifics: _____

D—If you prefer to donate via credit card, please call the UAB Development office at (205) 975-5659.