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# Pathology News

OCTOBER 31 , 2016

## CHAIR'S BLOG

Dear Colleagues:

The 2016 Fall issue of our Newsletter finds us in the beginning of a new academic year. Today (10/28/2016) we had our first department faculty meeting and it was heartwarming to see Drs. Bailey, Berg, Trejo Bittar, Bonadio, Hwang, Karunamurthy, Liu, Monaghan and Wang, our new faculty members, joining our ranks in all services and research activities of the department. As I mentioned to those present at the meeting, a department is like a living organism and the entry of new faculty, typically early in their career, brings in the "stem cells" that will carry forward the novelties in function and the responses to new challenges in the years to come. If the last five years are a guide, our field of Pathology in all its domains (Anatomic, Clinical, Genomic and Experimental) is undergoing explosive growth. With 8,000 new scientific articles published daily on average, discoveries in tumor biology or inflammatory or metabolic disease soon crystallize into new diagnostic tests guiding therapies and patient care.

Unavoidably, the complexity of tissue based diagnostics (solid organs, blood, fluids, etc.), enhanced by new complicated instrumentation, is an immense challenge for the laboratory of any single, stand alone, hospital. The strength of our department is the partnership between highly competent general

*(continued on next page)*



Autumn is  
a second  
spring  
when every  
leaf is a  
flower.

Albert Camus  
1913-1960

### Holiday Reminders

The University of Pittsburgh will be Thursday November 24-25 for the Thanksgiving Recess. UPMC will be closed Thursday, November 24.

The University of Pittsburgh will be closed Friday, December 23 through Monday, January 2, 2017. The Administrative Offices will be minimally staff and open during this time. University and Hospital offices will reopen Tuesday, January 3.

and subspecialist pathologists, who together create a brain trust that can handle all diagnostic challenges and complexities. Our “grid”, powers the peripheral and central hospitals and the available complex instrumentation supports our efforts across the UPMC system.

New subspecialties are rapidly growing. Computational Pathology is growing out of Pathology Informatics to become the science of pathology report algorithms. It determines what is to be reported, what makes something statistically significant to be worthy of report, and guides towards therapeutic opportunities currently available and those coming up soon. It is built on partnerships between pathologists and computational scientists. It is robust in most high-end academic centers; it is an entity that will not retract in time.

Digital Pathology remains a zone of active intellectual fermentation, a bubbly interface between programmers and pathologists, bringing together the visual with the quantitative, with new “apps” and expanded domains that will make all aspects of information of a specimen or test result available with the push of a computer button. It promises to make the life of a standalone pathologist more organized. In addition, it is becoming the “high speed highway” of information to connect subspecialized center groups with on-site peripheral practitioners and connect all points of the pathology grid.

In all of the above, I am trying to capture not only today’s reality, but the vectorial trends, where things are going. All of this is based on whatever little we know about life and disease, engineering and computer programming. At the base of it all, however, lies the team of the experimentalists, who may not be directly connected to the diagnostic delivery, but continue to pull out new information from the depths of the unknown and guarantee to provide us with new discoveries that will further enrich our diagnostic mission.

This is an exciting time for Pathology. Our department is happy to be part of it. Enjoy the Fall and the upcoming holidays of the Winter.

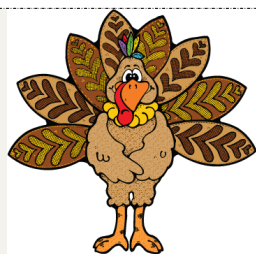
George K. Michalopoulos  
Pathology of Professor and Chair

Good Luck to **Mona Melhem, M.D.**, after 34.5 years of service in the Department of Pathology. She will move onto the next chapter of her life’s journey.



To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old problems from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advances in science.

Albert Einstein  
1879-1955



Every day I'm thankful for  
NIGHTS  
that turned into  
MORNINGS  
FRIENDS that turned into FAMILY  
DREAMS  
that turned into  
REALITY  
and LIKES that turned into LOVE.

GeniusQuotes.net

## Grant Administration

### **Kari Nejak-Bowen, Ph.D.**

Received an award from the UPP Academic Foundation in the amount of \$50,000; the award period is July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

### **Parmjeet Randhawa—PI**

#### Grant funding:

Title: T-cell clonotypes in BK virus infection complicated by acute rejection.

Agency: NIH R21 AI 117644-01A1

Percent of Effort: 30%

Funding period: 02/01/16- 01/31/18

Direct Costs: \$275,000

Total costs: \$423,235

**Dr. Charleen Chu** is principal investigator on R56 NS065789, entitled *PINK1 regulation of neuronal and mitochondrial homeostasis* (August 15, 2016-July 31, 2017; \$283,406/\$150,791) to study molecular mechanisms by which PINK1 supports dendritogenesis in neurons.

**Dr. Charleen Chu** is co-investigator on UH3 TR000503-05S1 (PI-Lans Taylor), entitled *Supplement for Creating models of rare childhood liver diseases using the human, liver-on-a-chip* (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017; Subcontract: \$50,000/27,000). She heads the Clinical-Pathology group to establish a clinical-pathological-research infrastructure to create and validate iPSC-models of pediatric mitochondrial hepatoencephalopathies.

**Dr. Charleen Chu** is co-investigator on R01 HL131789 (PI-Ana Mora), entitled *Signaling mechanisms by which mitochondria regulate fibrosis in the lung* (April 1, 2016-March 31, 2021; Subcontract: \$11255/\$6078). This study focuses on regulation of PINK1 in pulmonary fibrosis, interactions

University of Pittsburgh received **IMPACT award from Department of Defense** for multi-institutional study of fusion gene prediction of prostate cancer. Jianhua Luo, professor of pathology, is the initiating principle investigator, and Joel Nelson, professor and chairman of urology is the co-principle investigator of the study. The project involves collaboration among investigators from University of Pittsburgh, Stanford University and University of Wisconsin Madison, to analyze the predictability of prostate cancer clinical outcomes by a panel of fusion genes discovered in University of Pittsburgh. The 3.1 million dollar award for three years will be spread to these three institutes. University of Pittsburgh will be the main campus conducting most of the assays and developing algorithm for cancer prediction.

**Jianhua Luo, M.D., Ph.D.**

## WELCOME NEW FACULTY

**Rita Alaggio, M.D.**, Professor of Pathology in the Division of Pathology at Children's Hospital. Dr. Alaggio will join the Department January 1, 2017 as a Pediatric Pathologist. She is coming from the University of Padova in Padova Italy.

**Nathaneal G. Bailey, M.D.**, Associate Professor of Pathology in the Division of Hematopathology at Presbyterian-University Hospital has joined the Department September 1, 2016. He was previously at the University of Michigan. His area of expertise is in molecular and other neoplastic hemtopathology.

**Aaron N. Berg, M.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pathology, joined the Division of Anatomic Pathology July 1, 2016. Dr. Berg finished a fellowship in Cytopathology at UPMC in June. His area of expertise is in Head and Neck Pathology.

**Humberto Trejo Bittar, M.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pathology, will join the Division of Anatomic Pathology July 1, 2016. He is currently finishing a Thoracic Pathology Fellowship at UPMC.

**Jeffrey Bonadio, M.D.**, Associate Professor of Pathology at Magee Women's Hospital. Dr. Bonadio joined the Department August 1, 2016. Dr. Bonadio has a varied background both in corporate and academic settings. His area of expertise is in perinatal, pediatric and molecular genetic pathology.

**Hun-Way Hwang, M.D., Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pathology, will join the Division of Experimental Pathology September 1, 2016. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow at Rockefeller University. He will develop an independent research program in the area of molecular biology of RNA processing.

**Ari Karunamurthy, M.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pathology, will join the Division of Anatomic Pathology as well as Dermatopathology July 1, 2016. He is finished a fellowship in Dermatopathology in June 2016 at UPMC.

**Yen-Chun Liu, M.D., Ph.D., M.S.**, Assistant Professor of Pathology, joined the Division of Hematopathology September 1, 2016. She was previously at Cornell Medical College as an Assistant Professor. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology in Molecular Genetic Pathology, Hematology and Anatomic Pathology.

**Sara Monaghan, M.D.**, Associate Professor of Pathology, has rejoined the Department of Pathology in the Hematopathology Division August 1. Was at the University of Texas, and returned to the Department after five years in Texas.

**Xiaosong Wang, M.D., Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Pathology, has joined the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute February 1, 2016.



# Faculty Highlights



**Dr. Marshall Austin** was invited keynote speaker at the Cartwright Forum 2016 meeting “Control of Cervical Cancer in New Zealand: Achievements and Future Prospects” held August 5, 2016 in Auckland, New Zealand.

**Zahida Kahn, M.D., Ph.D.**, promoted from Instructor to Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Pathology.

**Satdarshan Monga, M.D.**, was recently inducted as a Fellow of the American Association for the Study of the Liver Diseases.

**Jeffrey Nine, M.D.**, The Decedent Affairs Service received the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Innovation Award at the 2016 PUH/SHY Quality Fair for our work “Centralizing Multivariate Death Processes: Creating a CTB Hub in the ICC.”

**Zoltan Oltvai, M.D.**: Patent granted: United States Patent Application No. 13/630,650, entitled “Flux Balance Analysis with Molecular Crowding”; Inventors: Zoltan N. Oltvai, M.D., and Alexei Vazquez, Ph.D.

## **Parmjeet Randhawa, M.D.**

- Jacob Churg Award by The Renal Pathology Society to recognize outstanding contributions to Nephropathology, March 13, 2016.
- Moderator, The Transplantation Society Webinar on T-cell and antibody mediated rejection, October 20, 2016.

## **Sarangarajan Ranganathan, M.D.**

- Organized the 1<sup>st</sup> Pediatric Pathology CME in Bangalore in India, August 2016, 11-13<sup>th</sup> as US coordinator on behalf of AIPNA.
- Invited Faculty: Management of Problematic Surgical Outcomes in Hirschsprung, Anorectal Malformations and Other Pediatric Colorectal problems, Oct 5-7, 2016 Topic: “A realistic Interpretation of the current histopathology”

## **Miguel Reyes-Mugiga, M.D.**

- President Elect for the Society for Pediatric Pathology, from March 2016- to March 2017.
- President Elect of the International Paediatric Pathology Association, the umbrella organization of all Societies for Pediatric Pathology in the World.

## **Chengquan Zhao, M.D.**—published a new book:

Diagnostic Exfoliative Cytology. Chief Editors: **Chengquan Zhao**, Fang Fan, Rulong Shen, Min Yang. Beijing Science and Technology Press, China.





## Faculty Highlights

### Chu Lab News

Manish Verma, PhD received first place in the Basic Post-graduate Researcher category for his poster entitled: *Role of mitochondrial calcium uniporter, SIRTUIN-3 and Ca<sup>2+</sup> in LRRK2 mediated neurodegeneration*, at the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of Pathology Research Day, 2016.

He also received a 2016 SPRIG Travel Award to support presentation of this data at the NHLBI/NIDDK Mitochondrial Biology Symposium, May 19-20, 2016.

Lab alumnus Salvatore Cherra (CMP PhD 2011) received a K99/R00 award NS097638 in June 2016, *Understanding the molecular mechanisms that maintain excitation-inhibition balance in neural circuits*.

Lab alumnus Erin Steer (CMP PhD 2016) is an Application Scientist at LGC Genomics - Douglas Scientific, Alexandria, MN.

**Kari Nejak-Bowen, Ph. D.** is in training to run a half-marathon in January 2017 at Walt Disney World during their Marathon Weekend. She is running to raise funds for the American Liver Foundation, a cause that is dear to many in Pathology. If you would like to support this run, please go to the page here:

[http://go.liverfoundation.org/site/TR/LiverLifeChallenge2017/ALFCorporate?px=1991665&pg=personal&fr\\_id=5583](http://go.liverfoundation.org/site/TR/LiverLifeChallenge2017/ALFCorporate?px=1991665&pg=personal&fr_id=5583)

Congratulations to **Octavia Peck-Palmer** and husband Phillip on the birth of their third son, Elijah Daniel born three months early on July 16, 2016, weighing 2 lbs and 1.8 oz. He now weighs 7 lbs 3 ozs. Big brothers Phillip (6 yrs old) and Simeon (3yrs old ) are excited and helpful!



### Veteran's - Roll Call

**November 10, 2016 1-3 p.m.**

Heinz Chapel

All are welcome to attend as we remember those who served our country.

## Promotions

**Marie DeFrances, M.D., Ph.D.**, promoted to Professor of Pathology, Division of Molecular Diagnostics

**Sarah Gibson, M.D.** promoted to Associate Professor of Pathology, Division of Hematopathology

**Dmitriy Gutkin, M.D.**, promoted to Professor of Pathology VA Health System

**Nahed Ismail, M.D., Ph.D.**, conferral of tenure, Section of Laboratory Medicine

**Jeffrey S. Nine, M.D.**, promoted to Professor of Pathology, Division of Anatomic Pathology

**John Ozolek, M.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor of Pathology, Children's Hospital

**Octavia Peck Palmer, Ph.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor of Pathology  
Section of Laboratory Medicine

**Karen Schoedel, M.D.**, promoted to Professor of Pathology, Division of Anatomic Pathology

**Raja Seethala, M.D.**, promoted to Professor of Pathology, Division of Anatomic Pathology

**Kenichi Tamama, M.D., Ph.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor of Pathology, Section of Laboratory Medicine

**Jing Yu, M.D., Ph.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor of Pathology, Magee Women's Hospital

**Yangping Yu, M.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor, Division of Experimental Pathology



## Departing and Retiring Faculty

**Trevor Macpherson, M.D.** retired September 30, 2016 as Residency Program Director and pathologist at Magee Womens Hospital after 37 years.

**Mona Melhem, M.D.**, retired October 1, 2016 as Division Chief at VA Health Center after 34 and a half years of service.

**Bruce Rabin, M.D., Ph.D.**, is resigning his positions at UPMC and Pitt January 3, 2017 and will be engaging in stress coping programs for traumatized children in several communities.

## SURP AND CMP GRADUATE PROGRAM

From the desk of Dr. Wendy M. Mars ....

## Cellular and Molecular Pathology Graduate Program News

First, I will share our biggest news. After many years of being my “partner in crime”, Marie DeFrances, MD/PhD, has had to step down as the Associate Director of the CMP graduate program, due to her new position as the Program Director for the Residency and Fellowship Program. I am sad to lose Marie as she has been such an asset to CMP, but the good news is that Alejandro Soto-Gutierrez, MD/PhD, known to many of you as “Alex Soto”, has agreed to assume her position and is currently “learning the ropes”. I have to say that so far, Alex has been doing a splendid job. Please join me in congratulating them both.

I am grateful that our program continues to do quite well. During the course of the past academic school year, seven students graduated; however, we also matriculated 6 new students (5 from IBGP and 1 from MSTP), presently putting us at 26 students, so that we continue to remain one of the largest of the six Interdisciplinary Program affiliates. Also, despite losing some faculty members through career changes, overall our faculty numbers have been growing. This past academic year we added 5 new faculty members to CMP: Julie Phillipi, Iain Scott, Rod Tan, Xiaosong Wang, and Yingze Zhang (primary), making our current total 73, up 2 from last year at this time. Although both are now in the Department of Medicine, Yingze and Rod are both former members of the Pathology Department. Additionally, 2 faculty members from other programs recently asked to be affiliated with CMP and, pending approval by the CMP Executive Committee, will be joining our program shortly. Please remember to tell interested faculty to contact me if they are interested in joining CMP. We are always willing to add qualified SOM faculty to our graduate program if their interests match with ours.

### SAVE THESE DATES

On **May 24, 2017** we will hold our annual Pathology Retreat, combining our basic and clinical researchers for an afternoon of stimulating talks, once again followed by a poster session at the University Club. This year our keynote speaker will be, James Musser, MD/PhD, Professor of Pathology and Genomic Medicine at the Institute for Academic Medicine at Houston Methodist Hospital.

The Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) will begin early next year, on **May 22, 2017**. For SURP, we are once again actively seeking interested faculty willing to host college undergraduates in their laboratories for a 10-week scientific research experience. SURP is a highly competitive outreach program, specifically designed to recruit high quality students into applying for graduate degrees through the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (UPSOM) programs such as the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Graduate Program and the Medical School.

The specifics of SURP are as follows:

The cost to the individual investigator is \$3,500.00. In some cases, there may be supplemental funding from UPSOM. Please contact me at 412-648-9690 or [wmars@pitt.edu](mailto:wmars@pitt.edu) if you are interested in learning more about these funding opportunities.

The program will run from May 22-July 28. Students are expected to have a specific project that they work on full time. They are also expected to attend supplemental programming 1-2 hours a week. At the end of the experience they must write an abstract and do a 10-minute power point presentation of their work.

Student housing and travel will generously be provided by UPSOM.



The success of this program relies on quality mentors well as quality students. Part of our past success has been due to participation of interested faculty such as you. In addition, we have implemented several techniques designed to attract the highest quality students to our program such as a shared online application process. I would venture that many of you who have participated as SURP mentors in the past can attest to the quality of the students that we are attracting. You need not be graduate faculty to take on a student. If you have any questions or are willing to be a mentor this year, please contact me at 412-648-9690, or via e-mail at [wmars@pitt.edu](mailto:wmars@pitt.edu).

Final news. Recently, Marie, Alex and I participated in a noon-time recruitment activity designed to inform first year medical students (MS1) about summer research opportunities in Pathology through venues such as our **Klionsky Fellowship Program**. At least 11 first year students expressed an interest in working with our faculty. Please be sure to speak with these students if they contact you as we do have monies to support their stipends; \$3000 stipend for 8 weeks of work due to the generosity of Dr. Klionsky. Thanks to the hard work of Marie, for the past two years these MS1 students have participated in Pathology learning activities, once a week, and feedback so far has been great!

If you are interested in having issues brought before the CMP steering committee, please share them with CMP administrator, Shannon Hozinec ([hozinecs1@upmc.edu](mailto:hozinecs1@upmc.edu)), or with me ([wmars@pitt.edu](mailto:wmars@pitt.edu)).

Thanks so much!

**Wendy M. Mars, Ph.D.**

**Director, Pathology SURP and**

**CMP graduate program**

**Jia-Ying Lee**, gave a 20 min talk at the 2nd Great Lakes Breast Cancer (GLBC) Symposium on September 10, 2016 entitled: "The Molecular Pathogenesis of AGTR1-positive breast cancer." The symposium took place at University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI)



Thursday, November 24, 2016

## RESIDENCY AND FELLOWSHIP

From the desk of Dr. Marie DeFrances

### Residency Program

After ten years of outstanding service, Dr. Trevor Macpherson stepped down as Residency Program Director on July 31, 2016. We thank him for his devotion to making our Pathology Residency Program one of the best in the nation! Dr. Marie DeFrances took over the Program Director role on August 1. She plans to build upon the solid educational foundation laid down by Dr. Mac and intends to maintain the Program's upward trajectory. In addition, she will continue to be responsible for the pathology medical school curriculum and related activities.

Our new pathology residents and fellows who arrived July 1 are settling in at UPMC and gaining experience and expertise in their new disciplines.

Residency recruitment begins October 21<sup>st</sup> – the first of eight interview dates. Eight candidates will be invited for each Friday interview day through December 16, 2016.

### Lama Farchoukh, M.D.

2016 Pathology Retreat, First Place, clinical poster session: Prognostic Significance of sub-Classification of Extracapsular Extension in Prostate Cancer from a Study of 673 Patients at a Large Academic Institution.

Farchoukh L, Kuan SF, Dudley B, Brand R, Nikiforova M, Pai RK. MLH1-deficient Colorectal Carcinoma With Wild-type BRAF and MLH1 Promoter Hypermethylation Harbor KRAS Mutations and Arise From Conventional Adenomas. *Am J Surg Pathol*. 2016 Oct;40(10):1390-9. PMID: 27438990

2016 Lillie Awardee

### Tirthadipa Pradhan-Sundd

Abstract

“Redundant Role of Catenins in Maintaining Tight Junctional Integrity”

Awarded at the Experimental Biology meeting  
April, 2016, Washington DC.



## MEDICAL SCHOOL

From the desk of Dr. Marie DeFrances.....

### MEDICAL STUDENT NEWS

**Terri Jones**, a fourth year medical student and an officer of the Pathology Medical Student Interest Group, received the "Academic Excellence and Achievement in Pathology Award" from the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). The ASCP states that only "ten medical students (are) ... selected to receive this prestigious award" each year. Congratulations, Terri!

### KLIONSKY SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWS' NEWS

In other news, three Klionsky Summer Research Fellows (**Elizabeth Haynes, Anna Ramos, and Pouya Joolharzadeh**) participated in the second annual STEPS program. STEPS (Summer Training Experiences in Pathology for Medical Students) is designed to provide second year medical students with opportunities to observe the clinical practice of Pathology one morning a week while carrying out summer research in our department. Eight activities were planned in different subspecialties of pathology such as au-

### FOR ACCESS TO WEB PAGE FOR ECU LOG-ON

*ECU data for the academic year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 for collection now. Please be sure your info is entered via our Department's web page link.*

For faculty with a UPMC network ID, please use this link. Accessing this link off of the UPMC network will bring up a login prompt: <https://epssecure.upmc.com/ECUAdmin/auth/index.cfm>

For faculty without a UPMC ID, please use this link: <https://epssecure.upmc.com/ECUTrack/index.cfm>

These links are also available on the Department of Pathology webpage under links at: <http://path.upmc.edu/links.htm>.

From the home page select which ECU activity is to be logged, and whether the activity is for medical or graduate students. Then fill in all fields on the form with an option for a free-text note at the end. Confirmation will be given and the activity will be entered into the database for submission at the end of the academic term.

For questions or feedback, please contact Thomas Harper at ISD ([harperth@upmc.edu](mailto:harperth@upmc.edu)). Thank you.

Please send newsworthy items as they happen to:  
[szalkuskict@upmc.edu](mailto:szalkuskict@upmc.edu).

Thank you.





**Save the date!**

Monday, November 21, 2016

4-5 pm

Room 1104, Scaife Conference Center

## **An Inside Look at Non-tenure Stream Promotions.**

**Mona Melhem, MD**

Clinical Emeritus Professor, Department of Pathology

Please join us in welcoming back Dr. Melhem, as she discusses her recent experiences serving for three terms on the Standing Committee for Non-tenured Faculty Promotions and Appointments (NTFPA), including a term as Vice-Chair. The session will cover promotions and appointments to Associate Professor and full Professor. Learn about areas of emphasis for your pathway, how to prepare documents to facilitate smooth sailing, and common issues that could trigger the doldrums of extended discussion.

For purposes of planning, please RSVP to Mrs. Karen Weber, [weberkm@upmc.edu](mailto:weberkm@upmc.edu); 412-624-7897. Please free to submit in advance any questions or topics you would like to see addressed, and your primary role(s) (clinician, educator, research). There will be additional opportunities for written and oral questions at the end of the session.

For our tenured and tenure-stream faculty, there will be an analogous session on promotions, appointments and tenure-decisions in the Spring term.

Questions or comments?

Charleen Chu, MD, PhD

Vice Chair, Pathology Faculty Mentorship

[ctc4@pitt.edu](mailto:ctc4@pitt.edu)

## PITTSBURGH LIVER RESEARCH CENTER

From the Desk of Dr. Paul Monga....

**Pittsburgh Liver Research Center (PLRC)** update – from the desk of the PLRC Coordinator, Ann Vinski  
 The PLRC has gotten off to a great start this fall! Our new website is now live; please take a look at <http://www.livercenter.pitt.edu/>. We have begun our monthly seminar series, with the following speakers:

Wajahat Mehal, MD, DPhil, Yale University School of Medicine. “Hepatology in Transition: from Cure to Conundrum,” September 12, 2016.

Laurie DeLeve, MD, PhD, University of Southern California. “Why Prometheus Needed His Bone Marrow,” October 10, 2016.

UPCOMING SEMINAR: Rohit Loomba, MD, MHSc, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine. *Title forthcoming*, November 17, 2016.

The special interest groups meet regularly, and the speakers for the fall are:

Robert Squires, “Acute Liver Failure” & Donghun Shin, “Zebra Fish Regeneration” - September 12, 2016

David Geller, “Tumorigenesis: A Clinical Perspective” & Paul Monga, “Modeling of HCC and Novel Therapies” - September 19, 2016

Jaideep Behari, “Ongoing Studies in NASH” & Amir Ali Borhani, “NASH Imaging for Fatty Liver” - October 3, 2016

Paulo Fontes, “Organ Preservation” & Eric Lagasse, “Ectopic Liver Building” - October 17, 2016

Edward Prochownik, “Liver Cancers as Ribosomopathies” & Lisa Butterfield, “HCC Tumor Immunotherapy” - October 24, 2016, 5 - 6 p.m., S120 BST

Kapil Chopra, “PSC” & Kari Nejak-Bowen, “Repair Processes in Cholestatic Injury” - November 21, 2016, 5 - 6 p.m., S120 BST

Christopher Hughes, “Role of Regeneration: A Clinical Perspective” & Paul Monga, “Stimulating Liver Regeneration in Preclinical Models” - November 28, 2016, 5 - 6 p.m., University Club Conference Room A

Allan Tsung, “Surgical Options for HCC” & Andrew Duncan, “Ploidian Cancer” - December 12, 2016, 5 - 6 p.m., S120 BST

The PLRC sponsored a team for the Community Liver Alliance’s “Walk the Talk for Liver Health 5K Walk/Run,” on October 9, 2016, at The Great Allegheny Passage at the Waterfront in Homestead.





## PUBLICATIONS

Randhawa P. T-cell mediated rejection of the kidney in the era of donor specific antibodies: diagnostic challenge and clinical significance. *Current Opinions in Organ Transplantation*, 2015, 20: 325 (article designated Editor's Choice in this issue).

Papadimitriou JC, Randhawa P, Rinaldo CH, Drachenberg CB, Alexiev B, Hirsch HH. BK Polyomavirus Infection and Renourinary Tumorigenesis. *Am J Transplant*, 2016: 16: 398-405.

Gang Huang, Gang Zeng, Yuchen Huang, Bala Ramaswami, Parmjeet Randhawa. Evaluation of the Gastrointestinal Tract as a Potential Route of Primary Polyomavirus Infection in Mice. *PLOS ONE*, 2016, <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0150786>

VE Kagan, J Jiang, Z Huang, YY Tyurina, C Desbordes, C Cottet-Rousselle, H Dar, M Verma, VA Tyurin, AA Kapralov, A Cheikhi, G Mao, D Stolz, CM S. Croix, S Watkins, Z Shen, Y , ML Greenberg, M Tokarska-Schlattner, M Boissan, M-L Lacombe, RM Epand, CT Chu, R Mallampalli, H Bayır, U Schlattner. (2016) NDPK-D (NM23-H4)-dependent externalization of cardiolipin during elimination of depolarized mitochondria. *Cell Death Differ* In press. PMID: 26742431 PMC Journal – In process. doi: 10.1038/cdd.2015.160.

K Banerjee, S Munshi, H Xu, DE Frank, HL Chen, CT Chu, J Yang, S Cho, VE Kagan, TT Denton, YY Tyurina, JF Jiang, GE Gibson. (2016) Mild mitochondrial metabolic deficits by a-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase inhibition cause prominent changes in intracellular autophagic signaling: Potential role in the pathobiology of Alzheimer's disease. *Neurochem Int* 96:32-45. PMID: 26923918. PMCID: PMC4860123

R Di Maio, PJ Barrett, EK Hoffman, CW Barrett, A Zharikov, A Borah, X Hu, J McCoy, CT Chu, EA Burton, TG Hastings, JT Greenamyre. (2016) a-Synuclein binds TOM20 and inhibits mitochondrial protein import in Parkinson's disease. *Sci Transl Med* 8: 342ra78. PMC Journal – In process.

NQ Richards, JK Kofler, CT Chu, ST Stefko (2016) Intraocular synovial sarcoma. *Retin Cases Brief Rep* In press.

DJ Klionsky... CT Chu ... et al. (2016) Guidelines for the use and interpretation of assays for monitoring autophagy (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). *Autophagy* 12: 1-222. PMID: 26799652

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## PRESENTATIONS

### Charleen Chu, M.D., Ph.D.

- Regulation of injury-induced mitophagy: Day jobs and emergency call, Mar 25, 2016, Gordon Research Conference of Autophagy in Stress, Development & Disease, Ventura, CA.
- Beyond mitophagy: sensors of mitochondrial dysfunction in neurons, April 22, 2016, Dept. of Cell Biology and Neuroscience, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ.
- Mitochondrial signals in neuron health and disease, May 4, 2016, Department of Pathology Grand Rounds, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA.

#### Abstracts:

**Ultrasound Training Phantoms for Pathologist Performed Ultrasound-Guided Fine Needle Aspiration** Sara E. Monaco MD; Juan Xing MD; Russell Silowash DO; Jackie Cuda BS SCT (ASCP); Liron Pantanowitz MD The American Society of Cytopathology conference in November.

### George K. Michalopoulos, M.D., Ph.D.

- Invited Speaker for seminar on “Liver Regeneration” at the University of Barcelona, Spain, May 2016.
- Invited Speaker at the FASEB Summer Conference on Liver Biology, West Pam Beach Florida, June 2016.
- Invited Speaker at the PISA meeting, Houston, TX October 2016.
- Invited Speaker (three presentations) at the AASLD meeting Boston, MA November, 2016.



### Satdarshan P. Monga, M.D.

- “Cell-cell junctions: Novel crosstalk and insights into cholestatic liver injury,” FASEB Summer Research Conference, Liver Biology, West Palm Beach, FL, 06/2016.
- "Catenins at hepatocyte junctions: implication in cholestatic liver disease,” Mayo Clinic Hepatobiliary Cancer SPORE Retreat. Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, 08/2016.
- "Modeling Human Liver Cancer in Mice: Biological and Therapeutic Implications," Pathobiology Graduate Program Retreat, Brown University, Providence, RI, 08/2016.
- “Beta-catenin mutations in HCC: Biological and Therapeutic Implications,” ILCA 2016 Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada, 09/2016.

### Russell Silowash, M.D.

Abstract accepted for the American Society of Cytopathology Conference in November. “Ultrasound Training Phantoms for Pathologist Performed Ultrasound-Guided Fine Needle Aspiration”

Sara E. Monaco MD; Juan Xing MD; Russell Silowash DO; Jackie Cuda BS SCT (ASCP); Liron Pantanowitz MD

**Wednesday, November 2, 2016 - 12:00 -1:00 p.m.**

**1104 Scaife Hall**

***The Liver Microenvironment Regulates Carcinoma Metastasis and Chemoresistance***

**Alan Wells, M.D., Sc.D.**

Thomas J. Gill III Professorship  
Section of Laboratory Medicine  
Department of Pathology  
University of Pittsburgh

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**Annual Totten Lecture**

**Wednesday, November 16, 2016 - 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.**

**1104 Scaife Hall**

***Head and Neck Cytology: Moving Beyond Morphology***

**Jeffrey F. Krane, M.D., Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Pathology  
Department of Pathology  
Harvard Medicine School  
Boston, MA

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**Wednesday, December 7, 2016 12:00-12:30 p.m.**

**1104 Scaife Hall**

***Statin Mediated Suppression of Breast Cancer Growth***

**Colin Beckwitt, B.S.**

Graduate Student

**12:30 - 1:00 p.m.**

***Molecular Pathogenesis of AGTR1-positive Breast Cancer***

**Jia-Ying (Lloyd) Lee**

Graduate Student

**Wednesday, January 11, 2017—12:00—1:00 p.m.**

**1104 Scaife Hall**

***“Liver Regeneration and Liver Cancer: A Bad Connection!”***

**George K. Michalopoulos, M.D., Ph.D.**

Professor and Chair  
Department of Pathology  
University of Pittsburgh

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**Wednesday, January 25, 2017—12:00—1:00 p.m.**

**1104 Scaife Hall**

Title: TBA

**Andrew Beck, M.D., Ph.D.**

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Boston, MA

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**Wednesday, February 15, 2017—12:00—1:00 p.m.**

**1104 Scaife Hall**

***“Modeling the Dynamic Control of Liver Renewal and Regeneration”***

**Rajanikanth Vadigepalli,**

Associate Professor of Pathology  
Anatomy and Cell Biology  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA

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**Wednesday, March 8, 2017—12:00—1:00 p.m.**

**1104 Scaife Hall**

***“New Insight of Mechanisms Underlying Cellular Senescence”***

**Xiao-Fan Wang, Ph.D.**

Donald and Elizabeth Cooke Professor of Experimental  
Oncology  
Duke University School of Medicine  
Durham, NC



## PA Medical License Requirements

You may have received the email below regarding renewal of your PA License, which will expire on December 31, 2016. Please renew it as soon as convenient so that you are sure to receive the certificate with time to spare before the expiration date. Online renewal is open now at this link: <http://www.mylicense.state.pa.us/>

Also, when completing the application, you are now required to complete two hours of Board approved **Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting Continuing Education (Child Abuse CE)**. Here is a quick link to the training for your convenience: [https://www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu/webapps/portal/execute/tabs/tabAction?tab\\_tab\\_group\\_id=\\_91\\_1](https://www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu/webapps/portal/execute/tabs/tabAction?tab_tab_group_id=_91_1)

**After you receive your renewed license, please sign the certificate and fax a copy to me at (412-648-1916) or send it to me electronically so that I can forward to the CVO.**

Judith Nestico

## CME Credit Update

The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Center for Continuing Education for the Health Sciences CME transcripts can be obtained via the Internet at [ccehs.upmc.edu](http://ccehs.upmc.edu). Click on link "Credit Transcripts" enter the required information (last name, last five digits of social security number). The transcript reflects the American Medical Association Category 1 credits or the Continuing Education Units (CEUs) which have been entered into the Center's database. Credits from other institutions can be entered using the option "add/modify" credit information. For questions about the Continuing Medical Education Credits, please contact 412.647.8232.

## Educational Credit Unit Update

Just a reminder that the Educational Credit Units (ECUs) are being collected from every faculty member who has been involved with teaching activities of the medical or graduate school programs from **July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017**. We have initiated a web-page (see directions for access to page on Page 7) to collect teaching as it happens. Please be sure to update your teaching data. The School of Medicine will be asking for the information in July. If you have any questions please contact Chris Szalkuski at [szalkuskict@upmc.edu](mailto:szalkuskict@upmc.edu).

## Publication Notification Process Update

This is a reminder the Dean has requested a Notification of Publication form for each manuscript accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. The notification ensures compliance with human and animal research policies, technology transfer/patent guidelines and the requirements for citation of grant support. It also allows for newsworthy publications to be passed onto the University media. Please submit preprint information via the website at: <https://pnf.hs.pitt.edu>. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Szalkuski at [szalkuskict@upmc.edu](mailto:szalkuskict@upmc.edu).