We are excited to announce the 2014-2015 Pathology PGY1 interview season. This year we will host three separate Group Interview Days (Nov 13th, 22nd and Jan 10th). Many faculty and housestaff will be participating in the recruitment process. The day’s events will begin with an early morning Meet & Greet, followed by the candidates attending a special “Resident Morning Conference.” Next, there will be a departmental tour that will showcase the great opportunities offered in the pathology program here at UCLA. Then, there will be a welcome and department overview presented by the chair, residency program director, and associate program directors, followed by individual interviews with faculty and housestaff. A group lunch with current and past residents will give the applicants an opportunity for candid one-on-one Q/A sessions. The activities will conclude with an evening reception at the W Hotel. We are very excited for this year’s recruitment season, and expect great success.

2013 Heart Walk by the Numbers:
On November 2, 2013, several faculty and staff members accompanied by their family and friends participated in the Santa Monica Heart Walk, raising over $4K. UCLA Health was ranked 9th out of the 73 teams that participated. Great Job!

Special shout out to those who participated:
Dr. Lu Song, Abder Alioua, Anthony Johnson, Amie Ludovico, Ana Rachelle Muro, Dawn Stene, Elizabeth Gambol, Ellen Canonizado, Emmy Von Seyfried, Heidi Vasquez, Nathan Okawa, Nena Wild, Ofelia Cartagena, Pontip Wises, Salpi Janetsian, Sharon Brown, Teena Dunn, Teresa Siojo
Jerzy Kupiec-Weglinski, MD, PhD, who has a joint appointment in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, and the Department of Surgery, is the recipient of a $2 Million grant to improve quality of donor livers. | Read More

UCLA’s 3rd Annual Genetics Symposium, scheduled on 1/24/2014, has received a $5,000 unrestricted medical education grant from Illumina, Inc.’s Medical Education and Grant (MERG) Committee. These grants are intended to fulfill unmet education needs for physicians in genomic medicine. Congratulations to Sharon Webb whose advocacy made this possible. | Read More

Dr. Bogdan Pasaniuc, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, is the recipient of a STOP CANCER 2014 I.C.O.N. Seed Grant. The highly-competitive, prestigious award is granted to promising and innovative junior scientists dedicated to developing improved treatments, new diagnostic procedures and ultimately, a cure. | Read More

Great Job to Dr. Elena Stark and medical students; Jason Scapa, Sara Mottahedan, Richard Morgan and Kevin Yang, for a successful kick-off to the new Pathology Interest Group, “PathIG,” Speaker Series. | Read More

Drs. Robert Schiestl and Jonathan Braun’s paper regarding the discovered link between intestinal bacteria and white blood cell cancer continues to receive a great deal of press both printed and online. For a complete list please click here.

Dr. Gay Crooks, MBBS, has been appointed the Rebecca Smith Chair in A-T Research. The Chair supports an outstanding senior faculty member in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine who provides continuing leadership in innovative research and education in the cause, diagnosis and treatment of Ataxia-Telangiectasia (A-T) and the genetic disorders it exemplifies.

The American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics announces the 2013 Award Winners...

Dr. Yi-Ping Jin’s abstract 146, SIGNALING NETWORKS REGULATING HLA CLASS II ANTIBODY-MEDIATED ACTIVATION AND MIGRATION OF ENDOTHELIAL CELLS.

Dr. Fang Li’s abstract 136, ACTIVATION AND CYTOSKELETAL REMODELING OF HUMAN ENDOTHELIAL CELLS BY HLA CLASS II ANTIBODIES.

Both abstracts were among the highest scoring abstracts submitted this year.
Welcome New Faculty Members

Dr. Behjatnia will be teaching first and second year blocks in histopathology. She has been teaching histopathology at UCLA since 2012 as an adjunct instructor, and is also a staff Anatomic and Clinical Pathologist at the Anaheim Regional Medical Center.

Bita Behjatnia, MD

Dr. Haydel is a new attending pathologist in our pediatric pathology service. She has a clinical and investigative interest in pediatric soft tissue tumors. She is pursuing her interest in pediatric Dermatopathology and will continue her studies in this area in conjunction with Dr. Binder and the Dermatopathology program at UCLA.

Dana Haydel, MD, M.S.

Dr. Strom will devote his clinical expertise to the Clinical Genomics Center, Molecular Pathology laboratory, and Orphan Disease Testing Center. He has particular expertise, through doctoral studies and post-doctoral fellowships, in neuropsychiatric and ophthalmic genetics, and has interest in cancer genomics as well.

Samuel Strom, PhD

Dr. Xu is our senior expert in head and neck pathology and cardiothoracic pathology. He is an NIH–funded investigator whose research interests include identifying novel biomarkers in lung, head and neck tumors and fibrosing interstitial pneumonia. Ongoing studies in his lab are focused on defining the functional roles of FoxO1 and Wnt/beta-catenin signaling pathways in the regulation of voltage-gated channels.

Haodong Xu, MD, PhD

Welcome New Associate Researcher

Dr. Yea is an attending pathologist in the Hematopathology section. He will be involved in the evaluation of hematologic disorders including peripheral smears, bone marrows, lymph nodes, flow cytometry, cytogenetic and molecular studies, coagulation studies and HPLC studies; and will cover Hematopathology service. He will also conduct basic/translational research with Dr. Douglas Black in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics.

Steven Yea, MD, PhD

Dr. Casero will conduct research on the use of genomics approaches in hematology and immunology. He will apply existing tools to develop new computational approaches to interpret and integrate large data sets. He will work with a collaborative group of laboratories that generate genomic data to identify key genes involved in the regulation of hematological differentiation and malignancies. He will also use RNA sequence data to discover and characterize the structure of coding and non-coding transcripts.

David Casero, PhD

Dr. Kerkoutian is a new attending pathologist in our genitourinary pathology service. Her clinical and investigative interests include a diagnosis of benign and neoplastic conditions, particularly tumors of the prostate, bladder, kidney, testis and adrenal gland. She will spend part of her clinical time covering pathology service at the Santa Monica hospital.

Susan Kerkoutian, MD

Dr. Gamo will be teaching first year blocks in anatomy. He is also an Assistant Professor at West Coast University, North Hollywood campus, and an Instructor in the MRI Technology Department at CNI College.

Joel Gamo, MD
Welcome New Employees

**October 2013**

In alphabetical order:
- Maria De Leon - CLS, Blood Bank
- Jim Hoover - Programmer Analyst IV, Path IT
- Fadi Kandarian - SRA, Immunogenetics
- Stacie McConnell - HLT, BURL
- Kelli Mizufuka - Per Diem CLS, SM Hospital
- James Raffin - HLT, BURL
- Dhithya Ramaswamy - CPT I, Support Services

**September 2013**

In alphabetical order:
- David Agustin - HLT II, Blood & Platelet Center
- Jared Corn - HLT, Histology
- Lucia Diaz - CLS, Microbiology
- Arman Farhangi - HLT II, Blood & Platelet Center
- Polina Gumennykova - HLT I, Microbiology
- Amanda Guzikowski - HLT I, Blood & Platelet Center
- Airek Mathews - Safety Officer, Operations Management
- Paula Mendoza - HLT II, Blood Bank
- Jillian Romero - CLS, Microbiology
- Sierra Stearns - HLT I, Microbiology

**August 2013**

In alphabetical order:
- Jonathan Abel - PA IV, IT
- Rhodora Bernardino - CNII, Blood & Platelet Center
- Ricardo Contreras - HLT I, Brentwood Annex
- Nancy Dinh - HLT II, Surgical Pathology
- Sean Full - Admin Specialist, Blood & Platelet Center
- Alexander Millan - HLT III, Surgical Pathology
- Ellen Ngo - CPT I, Support Services
- Ae Phakonekham - CLS, Brentwood Annex
- Christopher Tacto - PA II, IT
- Diana Villeda - CLS, Brentwood Annex
- Blanca Velasco - CN II, Blood & Platelet Center
- Will Werre - HLT III, Core Lab

**New members of the UIC team July-October 2013**

- Andrea Alvarez – SRA I
- Matthew Gray - CLS
- Fadi Kandarian - SRA I
- James Lan — Director Trainee
- Stan Orand - Programmer
- Tiffany Sidwell - SRA
- Nwe Nwe Soe - Post Doc
- Kim Thomas - Post Doc
The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine held its Fall Seminar on October 12, 2013 at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Over 150 phlebotomists, clinical laboratory scientists, hospital technicians and other laboratory professionals were in attendance. The seminar provided a day of talks highlighting some of the research being done at UCLA, as well as a recap of events over the last year that impact healthcare.

Dr. Sophie Song discussed the role of “Flow Cytometry in Management of Hematolymphoid Neoplasms”. UCLA’s participation in the breathing lung research project was presented by Dr. Reshma Biniwale in her talk on “Lung Transplantation”. Dr. Gay Crooks provided an overview of “Bone Marrow Transplants” as we celebrate the 55th anniversary of hematopoietic cell transplantation. Case studies were used by Dr. Sibel Kantarci to outline the idiosyncrasies of “Clinical Chromosomal Microarray Analysis”. Dr. David Cutler’s presentation on “ObamaCare: Where We Were, Where We Are, Where We Are Going” was very timely given the current events in the U.S. The seminar ended with a discussion on the various disasters that have occurred over the years. Hurricane Sandy, the Boston Marathon and the Asiana crash were events used as examples by William Dunne in his “How Hospitals Prepare for Disaster” presentation.

This free seminar is part of the department’s continuing education program providing educational activities to UCLA staff and employees. These seminars provide an opportunity for attendees to learn about new developments in healthcare, get re-acquainted with familiar topics, as well as network with fellow laboratorians.

Speaker Presentations can be found on the Pathology Website: [Click Here](#)

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**CARE HARBOR provides much needed care to L.A. residents**

The tremendous efforts of the many Path and Lab physicians and staff during the four-day Care Harbor community health care event were deeply appreciated. Special thanks to Lavita Boyd, Kellie Brown, Luz Cutidioc-Padilla, Jessie De La Cruz, Lynne Ford, Lucy Garrido, Salpi Janetsian, Mary Levin, Hope Angel Mayberry, and Dawn Stene, and to everyone who donated countless hours to make this annual event a success.
Lung Cancer Panel Sequencing Analysis

Effective Tuesday, September 17, 2013, the UCLA Molecular Diagnostics Laboratories is pleased to announce the official launch of the Lung Cancer Panel. The assay utilizes Ion Torrent high throughput targeted sequencing technology.

**Intended Use:**
The test is used to detect previously identified point-mutations and small insertion/deletion variants in six genes of known relevance to Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: **BRAF, EGFR, ERBB2 (HER2), KRAS, NRAS, and PIK3CA**. This test is intended for use in conjunction with clinical data for the clinical management of patients with cancer and is starting to be considered a clinical gold standard first-tier test for delivering fast and comprehensive results.

**Clinical Significance:**
The Ampliseq Cancer HotSpot Panel V2 contains 207 oligonucleotide primers. Only previously reported variants at known loci within the **BRAF, EGFR, ERBB2 (HER2), KRAS, NRAS, and PIK3CA** genes are interpreted.

**Codes:**
Specimen code: MPLUNGCANCER
Order code: lung-mp

**Laboratory:** UCLA Molecular Diagnostics Laboratories, 38-123 CHS

**Availability:** Monday– Friday, 8:00am – 5:00pm
Publications:  

July—September 2013

**GSRs:**  
_Benjamin Smoot_ (newly published, first-author only) that should be highlighted, please contact Doug Smoot (dsmoot@mednet.ucla.edu) or Christina Kim (ckkim@mednet.ucla.edu).

**Residents/Fellows:**  
_Joshua Deignan, PhD, FACMG_  
Assistant Professor, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine  
Chair, Pathology Research Alumni Committee

**Publications:**

**Autumn York – GSR (Steven Bensinger lab)**  
Subverting sterols: rerouting an oxysterol-signaling pathway to promote tumor growth.  
York AG, Bensinger SJ.  

**Joseph Argus – GSR (Steven Bensinger lab)**  
Immunology: Fueling function over expansion in T cells.  
Argus JP, Bensinger SJ.  

**Parrisa Solaimani – GSR (Oliver Hankinson lab)**  
_Genome Wide RNAi High Throughput Screen Identifies Proteins Necessary for the AHR-Dependent Induction of CYP1A1 by 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin._  
Solaimani P, Damoiseaux R, Hankinson O.  
_Toxicol Sci._ 2013 Aug 31. [Epub ahead of print]

**Simon Beaver – CMP Graduate (Peter Tontonoz lab)**  
Reciprocal regulation of hepatic and adipose lipogenesis by liver x receptors in obesity and insulin resistance.  
Beaven SW, Matveyenko A, Wroblewski K, Chao L, Wilpitz D, Hsu TW, Lentz J, Drew B, Hevener AL, Tontonoz P.  

**Post Docs:**

**Thomas Zangle – postdoc (Michael Teitell lab)**  
Quantifying biomass changes of single CD8+ T cells during antigen specific cytotoxicity.  
Zangle TA, Burns D, Mathis C, Witte ON, Teitell MA.  

**Thomas Zangle – postdoc (Michael Teitell lab)**  
Quantification of biomass and cell motion in human pluripotent stem cell colonies.  
Zangle TA, Chun J, Zhang J, Reed J, Teitell MA.  

**Mitsuko Yamamoto – recent postdoc (Robert Schiestl lab)**  
Effects of side-stream tobacco smoke and smoke extract on glutathione and oxidative Intestinal bacteria modify lymphoma incidence and latency by affecting systemic inflammatory state, oxidative stress, and leukocyte genotoxicity.  

**Liutao Du – recent postdoc (Richard Gatti lab)**  
_A New Series of Small Molecular Weight Compounds Induce Read Through of All Three Types of Nonsense Mutations in the ATM Gene._  

**Aaron W. James — current Resident**  
_BMP2-induced inflammation can be suppressed by the osteoinductive growth factor NELL-1._  

**Residents/Fellows:**  
_Aaron W. James — current Resident**  
_BMP2-induced inflammation can be suppressed by the osteoinductive growth factor NELL-1._  

**Chapter 1, Molecular determination of adipogenic versus osteogenic differentiation in mesenchymal stem cells.**  
Nguyen A, Chang L, Scott MA, James AW.  

**Reconciling the effects of inflammatory cytokines on mesenchymal cell osteogenic differentiation.**  

**Natural history of mesenchymal stem cells, from vessel walls to culture vessels.**  
Murray IR, West CC, Hardy WR, James AW, Park TS, Nguyen A, Tawonsawatrak T, Lazzari L, Soo C, Peault B.  
_Clinical and Molecular Life Sciences, Accepted for publication. Co-author.

**Beth Palla – current Fellow**  
SOX10 expression distinguishes desmoplastic melanoma from its histologic mimics.  
Palla B, Su A, Binder S, Dry S.  

**Annie Wu – current Resident**  
_Bifid cardiac apex in a 25-year-old male with sudden cardiac death._  
Wu A, Kay D, Fishbein MC.  

**Atsuko Seki – current Fellow**  
Primary endocardial fibroelastosis: an underappreciated cause of cardiomyopathy in children.  
Seki A, Patel S, Ashraf S, Perens G, Fishbein MC.  
### Upcoming IMED Seminars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Photo</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 13th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Michael Wigler, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Understanding Cancer, One Cell at a Time</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Dec. 4th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Rafi Ahmed, Ph.D.</td>
<td>T Cell Memory and Exhaustion</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Dec. 11th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Steve McKnight, Ph.D.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Dec. 12th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>David Bartel, Ph.D.</td>
<td>MicroRNAs and a Developmental Switch in the Nature of Translational Control</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Jan. 8th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Admiral Michael Mullen, USN</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Jan. 15th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>David Housman, Ph.D.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Jan. 22nd @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Charles Bolden</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Jan. 29th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>David Kessler, MD</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Feb. 5th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Erin Brockovich</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Feb. 12th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Harvey Cantor, M.D.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<td>Feb. 19th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Brian Drucker, M.D.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 26th @ 12pm</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Photo" /></td>
<td>Craig Venter, Ph.D.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>NRB Auditorium</td>
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Pathology and Laboratory Medicine’s Got Talent

Christopher Koster, a Clinical Laboratory Scientist at the Ronald Reagan Hospital Core Lab, has an alter ego that will rock your world. He plays the electric guitar under the stage name “Ziggy” for his band called Yesterday’s Child. The band specializes in classic rock and roll from the 1960s and 1970s playing a mix of tunes tailored to the taste of the audiences. The band has put on performances throughout Southern California and as far away as Arizona in numerous tribute shows featuring music from The Who, Cream, and Jimi Hendrix. His favorite venue by far is The House of Blues on the Sunset Strip because of the legendary acts that have also performed on that infamous stage.

Chris became interested in music at an early age, thanks in part to his parents who exposed him to a wide range of music. Chris recalls, “…I gravitated towards classical music such as Beethoven and Tchaikovsky. My parents recognized my talent early on and taught me to play the piano.” Since his favorite group is the Beatles, he was then drawn to pick up the guitar. Chris has a steadily growing collection of 19 guitars, including electric, acoustic, and classical. He plays in the style of Jimmy Page and Jimi Hendrix, all of which he learned by ear. When asked how he is able to balance the creative and scientific aspects of his life, Chris takes it all in stride. Music is so innate for him that he plays his guitar all the time, including vacations and an occasional session for his co-workers. To learn more about the band & their upcoming performances, visit http://www.yesterdays-child.com/.

Pathology Outreach Halloween Potluck

Check out Pathology’s Outreach area during their Halloween Potluck. Beth Palla, M.D., one of our Derm-Path Fellows, is dressed as a Milkmaid (top right); Sheila Thomas, a Health Information Coder IV was dressed as a 70s Chick (top left); and below, we have Carolina Macias, Hospital Laboratory Tech (bottom left) and Vanessa Lira, Faculty Support (bottom right) dressed as Los Angeles Dodgers!

“What I wish I knew in High School”
- King-Drew Magnet High School of Medicine and Science invite UCLA’s Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine to Career Day

As part of their high school curriculum, King-Drew allows students to volunteer in different areas of the medical field in pursuit of any career that attracts them. As Alum, I attend this program annually to introduce the field of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine to the next up and coming generation. I had a great opportunity interacting with sixty high school seniors through open discussions. We conversed on well-known illnesses, their progression; and how the field of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine contributes to the treatment and monitoring of such illnesses.

Students were provided with information on all areas of the lab and the critical steps after high school that would propel them into the open adventure of the field of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. With the retirement rate set to increase over the next several years due to Baby Boomers, this is my way of attracting young scientifically engaged critical thinkers to this growing field.

Thank you, Khanh Andrews and Elsa Tsukahara, for providing handouts.

HopeAngel Mayberry Sr. CLS Supervisor, Support Services

Upcoming Events:

- Peggy Sullivan, MD “the ‘PAP’ Test: Past, Present and Future; A Cytopathologist’s Perspective”: Nov. 21 6-8:30pm | More Info

Residents Day No. 2: November 22nd

- Department Holiday Party: December 3rd

- Residents Day No. 3: January 10th

Newsletter Committee: Arnold Scheer, Khanh Andrews, Daisy Castro, Karyn Greenstone, Bushra Yasin

Send us your suggestions for future newsletters at: Email Dcastro@mednet.ucla.edu