2016 CAP Inspection

Between October 17 and 19, UCLA Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Anatomic and Clinical Pathology laboratories were visited by Charleston Area Medical Center as they served as our 2016 CAP Inspectors. The inspection was defined as a “great learning exchange” between the two hospitals. The inspectors expressed their gratitude for the wonderful hospitality they received throughout their visits at RRUCLA, SMUCLA, BURL, CHS, 2020, and MDL. They were impressed by our test menu and with the volume of services we provide to the health system. It was noted that our staff were confident and ready for the inspection. The inspection concluded with the ultimate compliment, in that we should be proud of our facility because they would have no problem with their family or themselves being treated within the UCLA Health System.

BY KHANH ANDREWS

2016 CAP Inspection

Dear all,
I’m delighted to report that NO deficiencies were identified by the CAP inspectors for our AP activities!
This is a huge accomplishment, and I want to thank each and every one of you for your assistance in helping get us ready for the inspection. We specifically were complemented on our adherence to the CAP requirements for use of synoptics (thank you, all!!!) by the team leader.

I also want to thank all the AP supervisors, Ann Shadler and Elsa Tsukahara for their incredible efforts to get us ready for this. Coming so quickly after the Beaker go-live presented some very significant challenges, and each and every one of our supervisors worked tirelessly, without complaint, to ensure we were ready. We are very lucky to have such dedicated and professional individuals on our team.

Additionally, I want to thank the Chief Residents for all the work they have done to help communicate CAP-critical issues to the residents and to provide feedback to the leadership team on ways to improve our activities – this is essential for continuous quality improvement.

I feel very fortunate to work with such a wonderful team. The CAP team leader had nothing but compliments about the work we do here and about every individual with whom he interacted.

Congrats all!!

Sarah M. Dry, MD
Director, Anatomic Pathology and Surgical Pathology

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Elsevier has released the Second Edition of Netter’s Surgical Anatomy Review P.R.N. by DGSOM Pathology Professor Robert Trelease, a compact ‘just-time’ review text for surgical clerkships and residencies, centered around newly updated figures from the famed Frank Netter anatomical and clinical artwork collection. The content is organized in chapters by organs/structures, making it easy for trainees to visualize the relevant underlying anatomy and to associate bulleted, important factual information about pathologies and clinical correlates for the most common conditions, diagnoses, and surgical procedures encountered in clinical practice. The Second Edition includes new chapters and artwork on Heart and Lung anatomy and diseases. The book has been released in print and multiple ebook formats, with enhanced online access at ExpertConsult.com. An updated version of the popular iPhone app will also be available on the Apple App Store.

Print format: Click Here
Kindle format: Click Here

As part of the publisher’s contract, free mobile access to the content of Netter’s Surgical Anatomy Review P.R.N. will continue to be offered via a local Web server for the General Surgery Clerkship, DGSOM medical students, residents, and faculty. Please contact Dr. Trelease for more information.

Wing-Kwai and Alice Lee-Tsing Chung Transfusion Service

Transfusion Service has been renamed the “Wing-Kwai and Alice Lee-Tsing Chung Transfusion Service” (aka Chung Transfusion Service). Mr. Wing-Kwai Chung made this donation in honor of his late wife, Lee-Tsing (Alice) Chung who worked as a CLS in the blood bank in CHS for 5 years. Alice was dedicated to patient care and passionate about her work in the blood bank. She was an avid gardener, had a great sense of humor and was truly loved by her co-workers.

Mr. Chung has made several donations in his wife’s honor including the serenity garden outside of Maddie’s Room on the main level of Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

His donation to transfusion service is intended to advance transfusion safety and effective blood management, thereby solidifying UCLA as a leader in transfusion medicine within the UC Health System. Our first initiative supported by his generous donation will be to implement Intercept Platelets, a pathogen inactivation system that improves the safety of platelet transfusion for our patients by decreasing the risk of transfusion-transmitted infections including septic transfusion reactions and the potential for transfusion-transmitted Zika virus. Additionally, as a condition of his donation, the hospital has committed to hiring a Transfusion Safety Officer, the first in the UC Health System.

We are thrilled to be partnering with him in this endeavor!

Annual "Taste of Soul" street festival

UCLA Health and UCLA School of Nursing volunteers came together on October 15 to serve the greater Los Angeles community. Over 1,600 people received health education, blood pressure and blood glucose screenings. It was heartwarming to observe our incredible UCLA employees extending such extraordinary acts of kindness to community members. Thank you to Vincent Buggs who delivered Point of Care testing equipment for the event. Special thanks to our RRUCLA Point of Care colleagues who provided the resources needed.
Sepsis causes more deaths than prostate cancer, breast cancer and HIV/AIDS combined. Every hour, about 50 people die from sepsis. Sepsis remains the primary cause of death from infection despite advances in modern medicine, including vaccines, antibiotics, and intensive care. Sepsis arises when the body’s response to an infection injures its own tissues and organs. It may lead to shock, multiple organ failure, and death, especially if not recognized early and treated promptly. Between one third and one half of patients with sepsis, die.

Sepsis is often diagnosed too late, because the clinical symptoms and laboratory signs that are currently used for the diagnosis of sepsis, like raised temperature, increased pulse or breathing rate, or white blood cell count are unspecific. Sepsis is under-recognized and poorly understood due to confusion about its definition among patients and healthcare providers, lack of documentation of sepsis as a cause of death on death certificates, inadequate diagnostic tools, and inconsistent application of standardized clinical guidelines to treat sepsis.

Core Laboratory & Brentwood Annex participated in the World Sepsis Day Education Fair held on September 15, 2016 in RRUCLA

American Heart Association| Heart Walk 2016

On October 8, 2016, several faculty and staff members accompanied by their families and friends participated in the Pasadena Rose Bowl Heart Walk, raising over $4k.

RRUCLA Pathology & Laboratory Medicine employee Mirican Guregian, attended the 2016 Olympic games in Rio de Janeiro Brazil. He was in Rio to cheer on his son who is a member of the USA Rowing Team. Go USA!

BY KHANH ANDREWS
Congratulations to the Clinical Laboratory Scientist Class of 2016!

BY CHRISSIE DAWSON

The graduation celebration was held on July 6th at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Among the many that attended to congratulate the students were Dr. Alyssa Ziman, Paul Colonna, Cheryl Jackson Harris (CSUDH CLS Program Coordinator), and Elsa Tsukahara (Educational Coordinator). Faculty, staff as well as families and friends of the graduates were in attendance to offer their congratulations. The graduates Andrew Cottrell, Nicole Drew, Jason Gonzales, Mario Hakim, Tan Nguyen, Tiffany Pham, Grace Shin and Brian Song received their Certificates of Completion for successfully completing a one-year clinical internship at the UCLA Clinical Laboratories. UCLA Health is affiliated with the California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) Clinical Laboratory Scientist program.

Next steps for the graduates.... pass their national exams, get their licenses, and start their laboratory careers!

Thank You to everyone involved in making the program such a success!

Clinical Laboratory Scientist Class of 2016-2017

Please join me to welcome the new Clinical Laboratory Scientist (CLS) training class. This post-baccalaureate clinical training program in affiliation with California State University, Dominguez Hills currently accepts eight students per year. These students will be rotating through different sections of the laboratory during their one-year training at UCLA. Here are the eight new CLS students:

Guo Jian "Kevin" Wen
Kevin graduated from UCSB with a degree in Biochemistry, and worked as a pharmaceutical validation engineer before deciding on CLS as a career. Outside of dedicating himself to this program, he loves everything basketball: talking, watching, playing. He also enjoys long walks on the beach and candlelit dinners with his pet rock. A random fact about Kevin is that he was once hit by a parked car. Don’t worry, he survived.

Alex Garcia
Alex grew up in Upland, CA and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Biology from UCLA. During his undergrad, he worked as a Hospital Laboratory Technician at the UCLA Blood & Platelet Center. During his seven years there, he filled many roles including Platelet and Special Donor Coordinator and a Subject Matter Expert for the implementation of a new blood management software. In the future, he hopes to use his experience as a CLS to develop and improve processes in a management position. In his spare time, he enjoys outdoor activities including fishing, hiking, and snowboarding.

Continued on page 5
Janet Karschamroon
Janet graduated from CSUN and was brought up in a close knit Thai community in the San Fernando Valley which ingrained the importance of culture and family. Being the older of the two children, she was always placed in a leadership role whether it be caring for her brother or helping with the family restaurant. She believes that like everything in life there needs to be a balance between work and leisure because the best part of the journey is the small moments that you can enjoy with someone who matters to you. In her free time, she immerses herself in science fiction novels, baking, and just relaxing on the couch with her cat. She also has a love for soccer which leads to arguments with her dad.

Tiffany Wylie
Tiffany attended El Camino College before attending UCLA to graduate with a degree in Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics. While studying in Cal State Dominguez Hills, she worked as a lab assistant at Marina Del Rey Hospital where she began to fall in love with laboratory work and being involved in health medicine. Both her parents are CLS, so her interest in the profession started at a young age. She has also had the opportunity to travel to Bolivia, Argentina, and Mexico to be a part of medicine. She also has a passion and love for art, especially painting and drawing.

Erin Ma
Erin completed her Bachelors and Master’s Degrees in Biology in South Korea. Afterwards, she worked on neuronal cell physiology in the biomedical research field, developed a cell growth monitoring device and DNA hybridization detecting device. She relocated to Los Angeles to marry an officer in the US Air Force. She searched for a career where she could apply her enthusiasm for biological sciences and laboratory work and found that the clinical laboratory science field is where she needed to be. Being a military spouse has been a challenge but the experience has made her more resilient, confident and independent.

Charlene Nakar
Known as Charlie to her friends, Charlene grew up in South Pasadena, California. She attended Saddleback Community College in Mission Viejo before transferring to Cal State Dominguez Hills in 2013. She graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Clinical Science in 2016. She is an inducted member of Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Eta Society, and the Phi Theta Kappa honor societies. She enjoys spending her free time with her 10-year-old daughter, Keira, and her family and friends. She also collects books and vinyl records, plants succulents, crochets, hikes, and naps. Her future plans involve a successful and purposeful career in Clinical Science along with obtaining a Master’s degree to become a professor. She would like to teach and inspire future generations of clinical laboratory scientists.

Alice Ngo
Alice graduated from CSUDH with a degree in Biochemistry. As a child she has always been intrigued and curious about the world of science. Working as a CLS is similar to solving a puzzle. First you gather the pieces of information, then you arrange them together to form a whole picture with an end result of assisting the physicians with the proper diagnosis of the patient. Being able to help people and practice science simultaneously brings her pride and contentment. She also has a passion and love for art, especially painting and drawing.

Kathleen Juico
Kathleen received her Associate’s Degree in Biological Sciences from Long Beach City College, and a Bachelor’s Degree in Clinical Science from CSUDH. She was a member of the Science Society at CSUDH, and played badminton in high school. During her free time, she enjoys reading novels, watching TV, and playing board games. She also volunteers as a Minister of Hospitality at a local Catholic church. Before starting the CLS training program, she worked as a lead cashier at Panda Express.
Congratulations to the CLS class of 2017! Their poster entitled — UCLA’s Ebola Response Plan: Ensuring the Safety of Laboratory Professionals placed 2nd at the Student Forum Day of the 2016 California Association for Medical Laboratory Technology’s (CAMLT) annual meeting held in Pasadena, CA. The CAMLT holds a Student Day at their annual meeting to encourage students entering the laboratory profession to network and become involved in organizations such as CAMLT. Presentations and posters from laboratory students in training programs throughout California were part of the CAMLT student Day. Alex Garcia, Alice Ngo, Kevin Wen, Charlene Nakar, Janet Karschamroon, Tiffany Wylie, Kathleen Juico and Erin Ma (pictured with Cheryl Jackson Harris – CSUDH CLS Program Coordinator) received a one year CAMLT membership for their winning poster.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to Dr. Valerie Arboleda; she is the recipient of the 2016-2017 Daljit S. and Elaine Sarkaria Fellowship. | Read More

Dr. Omai Garner and his interdisciplinary research team have a new research study highlighted by the UCLA Newsroom. | Read More

The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United Stated has published a commentary on the work of Dr. Michael Teitell and his team. | Read More

Congratulations to Dr. Alarice C. Lowe of Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, for winning the Young Investigator Challenge from Cancer Cytopathology.

Dr. Sami Albeiroti, Clinical Chemistry Fellow, won the select Paul E. Strandjord Young Investigator award with Distinction... | Read More

Congratulations to Dr. Maximillian Rosario who is the 2016 recipient of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine’s Neil and Carol Ruzic award in cancer innovation.

Congratulations to Dr. Dennis Goldfinger who has been awarded the 2017 Emily Cooley Memorial Award by the American Association of Blood Banks.

Congratulations to Dr. Sara Mottahedan, a recent Post Junior Fellow in the Department, on receiving the Academic Excellence and Achievement in Pathology Award from the ASCP.

Congratulations to Dr. Jianyu Rao, who co-edited the book titled: Molecular Cytopathology, which has been published by Springer. A number of our Department’s faculty also contributed to the book, including Dr. Xinmin Li, Dr. Neda Moatamed, and Dr. Serge Alexanian.
Welcome New Employees

November

Front Row: Pamela Wollenberg – CLS, Brentwood Annex
Rochelle Ashley – CPT, RRH
Majda Benkhadra – CPT, RRH
Back Row: Jenalyn Mejia – HLT II, Brentwood Annex
Lily Phien Vo – CLS, Molecular Diagnostics Lab
Janice Vanderlip – CN II, Blood & Platelet Center
Brooke Crosswhite – Student Assistant II, Blood & Platelet Center
Gladstone Dizon – CLS, Flow Cytometry

October

Milad Abdelshahid – CPT, RRH
Alexander Alegria – HLT, Cytogenetics
Leslie Ayala – RN, Blood & Platelet Center
Irene French – CPT, RRH
Christina Fruga – CPT, SMH
Ashely Fuselier – CPT, RRH
Carolina Graciano – CPT, SMH
Rebecca Hersh – CPT, SMH
Peter Heumann – MOSO III, Blood & Platelet Center
Sarah Lee – CPT, RRH
Brooke LeGassick – HLT, Microbiology R&D
Mayra Lizardi – HLT, RRH Blood Bank
Julissa Marin – Adm Spec, Clin Lab Business Office
Donald Monceda – CLS, SMH
Nayely Monroy – CPT, SMH
Gabriela Morelos – HLT, Surg Path
Ana Navarro – CPT, RRH
Allison Tsan – Sr. CLS Spec, Microbiology

August

Front Row: Emily Liang – CGMBS Apprentice, Molecular Diagnostics
Nuria Velasquez – CPT, Santa Monica Hospital
Jean Reiss – CLS, Molecular Diagnostics
Back Row: Nichole Drew – CLS, Brentwood
Catherine (Kate) Hernandez – Sr. CLS Specialist, RRH Blood Bank
Jessica Stewart – Student Recruiter, Blood & Platelet Center

July

LEFT TO RIGHT

Brian Bowland – CLS, Brentwood
Jay Nasic – CPT II, RRH Support Services
Susie Rascon – HLT II, Component Processing Lab
Jocelyn Sanders – Pathologist Assistant, Surgical Pathology
Jennifer Filipeck – Pathologist Assistant, Surgical Pathology
Nadia Jose – Adm Specialist, Pathology & Lab Med Business Office

VISIT UCLA PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE WEBSITE.

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