

UW Medicine

PATHOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020



a year's overview

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Charles E. Alpers, MD
Professor and Interim Chair
Nelson Fausto-Ann De Lancey
Endowed Professor
Department of Pathology

Dear Colleagues and Friends of Pathology,

Welcome to the last edition of our newsletter. I write to you as we come to the close of a momentous year for our Department.

Looking back to the past year, some of the major events we have experienced include the graduation of five residents and 16 fellows from our clinical training programs, the graduation of five PhD students from our M3D graduate program (with three more expected this summer) and 15 MD PhD students from the medical scientist training program.

Our clinical programs will welcome three new faculty in anatomic pathology. Welcome Libby Parker, Bob Mrak, and Amber Nolan! Earlier this year, Robyn Reed

returned to Seattle, where she trained with us as a pathology resident, to join our faculty as a member of the anatomic pathology faculty at Seattle Children's Hospital. In addition, Kathryn Scherpelz, a graduate of our residency and neuropathology fellowship programs, will join our faculty in September 2021 after completing a forensic pathology fellowship, as assistant director of the autopsy service. In our last newsletter, we shared news of the consolidation of the Department of Pathology and Department of Laboratory Medicine, and information about our planned implementation of a new laboratory information system, Beaker. News of the last six months has been dominated by our response to COVID-19, and the changes in all aspects of our lives brought about by this pandemic. I have reviewed our Department response to COVID-19 separately on page 7.

As this chapter in our Department history comes to a close, I have had the unique opportunity to reflect on who we are, where we come from, and where we are going. We have, in the course of our history, been an international center for research on atherosclerosis, vascular biology, aging and aging syndromes, amyloidosis, cancer biology, genomics, cardiac biology...

a year's overview

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR (cont.)

...regenerative medicine, neurodegenerative disease, biology of growth factors, collagen disorders, matrix biology and application of electron microscopy to clinical and cell biologic research. Our translational and clinical research endeavors have been in the forefront of development of clinical applications of immunohistochemistry, of defining the biology and diagnostic parameters of preneoplasia and early neoplasia of the gastrointestinal tract, the role of herpes viruses in gynecologic diseases, defining the pathology of bone marrow transplantation, the characterization of hepatic neoplasia and of the biology and natural history of prostate cancer, in the development of an application of cytogenetics to diagnosis of cancer and constitutive genetic disorders, and the application of flow cytometry to diagnostic pathology. I know I have inadvertently left out many other areas where UW Pathology has provided impactful advances in our understanding of disease.

Some of our history will be captured in several end of the year celebration videos. Some will be captured in a document that recognizes the history of the Department as seen through the lens of the Department chairs

that preceded me and which gives a broad overview of current Department activities. This document (more like a book in its breadth and size!) will be made available to Department faculty, trainees, staff, and the search committee for a permanent chair of the new Department.

Now we meet the challenges of a new era by uniting with our colleagues in Laboratory Medicine in the new Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology. We have natural affinities that will allow us to synergize our efforts in the evolving fields molecular diagnostics, informatics, artificial intelligence, and other arenas, while building on our traditions of basic and translational research and diagnostic excellence. The changes we are embracing should provide exciting opportunities and experiences for our trainees as they engage with us in our transition to a department that has enormous potential to be more than the sum of the two existing departments.

Lastly, a plea from the Chair to consider the Department as you make plans for philanthropy, now or in the future. We have many needs and different endowments which help us meet them. If you want to support...

a year's overview

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR (cont.)

...our junior faculty, please consider donating to the Martin-Reichenbach Fund, named for our long-serving distinguished faculty, George Martin and Dennis Reichenbach. The fund has now attained sufficient size to be able to make its first awards to junior faculty to support their development and their pilot research endeavors. This year's inaugural awardees were Assistant Professor PJ Cimino for his project "Characterizing candidate tumor suppressor genes in glioma" and Assistant Professor Jessica Young for her project "Human stem cell approaches to understand inflammatory impacts on the neurovascular niche in Alzheimer's disease." A second endowment to support the career development of a junior faculty clinician scientist, the True-Brown Fellowship, was established this year and also made an inaugural award to Acting Instructor Caitlin Latimer to further her work on Resistance and Resilience to Alzheimer's Disease. Caitlin has been promoted to Assistant Professor effective July 1.

Alumni of any of our clinical training programs may wish to donate to the funds that support educational (Pathology Resident Education Fund) and research (Pathology Resident Research Fund) needs of trainees.

Currently, these funds support resident research projects and travel to meetings. Alumni of the Department's graduate programs may wish to support the Graduate Student Support Fund, which provides similar support to graduate training, particularly for first-year trainees. There are 15 other endowments supporting specific activities in the Department. All can be reached at UW Foundation (button below). Please support our community and help ensure its future.

I close by thanking all of you—faculty, trainees, staff, alumni, and friends for your many contributions to our past successes and thank you in advance for the effort and dedication you will bring to our future successes.

Be well,
Charlie

[Donate](#)

GEORGE MARTIN- DENNIS REICHENBACH ENDOWMENT

Join us in honoring Drs. George Martin and Dennis Reichenbach's deep and lasting commitment to research, education, and the development of new leaders for the discipline of pathology.

So far we've raised \$751,705!

No depiction of the strength of our Department would be complete without noting the impact Dennis and George have had on generations of graduate students, postdoctoral students, and junior faculty.

By supporting the George Martin-Dennis Reichenbach Endowment, you are not only honoring the amazing impact of two exceptional scientists, you are enabling early career pathologists to pursue their research interests that fall outside of the traditional focus areas of federal funding programs.

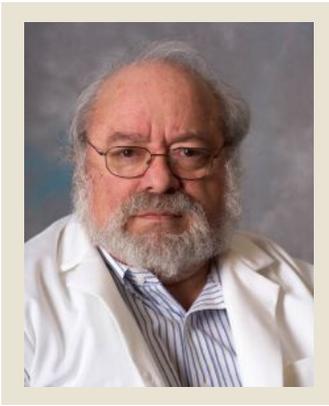
In the spirit of the indelible impact Drs. Martin and Reichenbach continue to have on our field, this endowment's purpose is to foster innovative research and better inform our fight against disease.



George M. Martin, MD, & Dennis D. Reichenbach, MD

Click below to donate or visit
bit.ly/UWPathEndowment

Donate



REMEMBERING PROFESSOR STEPHEN M. SCHWARTZ

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is with extreme regret that I share with you the news that a member of our faculty, Professor Stephen Schwartz, died in March after being hospitalized with COVID-19 infection. Steve has been a member of the Department since 1967. He did a residency in the Department of Pathology from 1967-1972, and then was a postdoctoral trainee in the laboratory of Earl Benditt, the second Chair of the Department. Steve then joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1973 and has been on our faculty ever since. He became a full professor in 1984. Steve also was an adjunct professor in the Departments of Bioengineering and Medicine, reflective of his many collaborative relationships with faculty and other departments in our medical school and in the world.

Steve had a distinguished career as an investigator in the field of vascular biology. He is rightfully considered a giant amongst investigators of the biology of smooth muscle cells and the structure of blood vessels. His honors include, but are not limited to, being named as an established investigator of the American Heart Association. He was a founding Chair of the Gordon Research Conference on vascular biology, a co-founder of the North American Vascular Biology Organization—the leading organization for investigation in vascular biology—and chaired numerous meetings both national and international in the field of vascular biology.

Steve will also be remembered for his vigorous advocacy for research and for the field of vascular biology, and for his many trainees who have gone on to great success as independent investigators in the field of vascular pathobiology. Among them are current distinguished members of our Department including Drs. Chuck Murry, Mark Majesky, and Ceci Giachelli.

Steve has left a lasting imprint on our Department, our University, and the broader scientific community. He will be greatly missed.

Sincerely,
Charlie

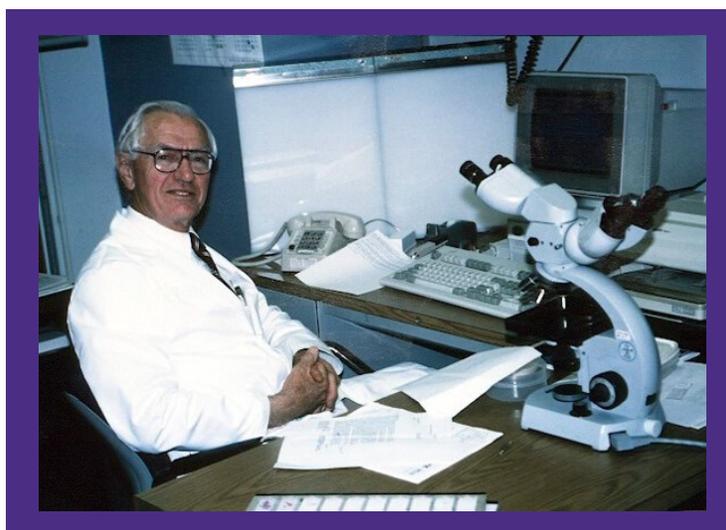
REMEMBERING PROFESSOR GORDON LAZERTE

It is with sadness that I share with you the passing of our friend and colleague Dr. Gordon LaZerte. Gordon passed away peacefully in his home January 9, 2020. He was 94 years old. Gordon completed medical school in 1948 at Tufts University in Boston, which was followed by post-graduate training and residency at Harborview Medical Center, Deaconess Hospital (Spokane) and Massachusetts General Hospital. Gordon was board certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, and Nuclear Medicine. Gordon started his pathology career in Seattle at the St. Francis Xavier Cabrini Hospital. He later joined the University of Washington and became the resident expert in bone and soft tissue pathology.

I met Gordon during my first weeks as a resident in anatomic pathology, and for me Gordon embodied kindness, thoughtfulness and wisdom. Gordon had a passion for teaching and I always looked forward to signing out cases with him. Each time I walked away knowing more about pathology, and about life. Gordon would share his love for the symphony and opera, adventures in the national parks, and his many experiences with his beloved family. Even after retiring, Gordon would still come regularly each Friday to attend our blue box conference and share his wisdom with trainees. We will miss his kind and generous soul.

Sincerely,

Kelly Smith, MD, PhD
Professor
Director, Residency Program



Gordon Douglas LaZerte
July 10, 1925 – January 9, 2020

COVID-19 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

Dear colleagues and friends,

The impact of COVID-19 is still being felt. Our graduation ceremony for Pathology residents and fellows, for the first time, was conducted in a virtual format. Our graduate students who have had dissertation defenses scheduled since the onset of the COVID crisis have given their defenses via Zoom; their graduation ceremonies also will be in a virtual format. The transition of the Department of Pathology into a new consolidated Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology will not be celebrated as anticipated; the occasion will also be marked in virtual activities.

Seattle was an early epicenter of the crisis and our early experiences proved to be of great value to the rest of the country in identifying constructive responses to the issues we encountered, and afforded us the opportunity to identify new and effective ways of meeting our mission. Among the successes of our response to the COVID crisis: an early autopsy study of the pathology identified in COVID-19 infected patients, which has now resulted in a manuscript that includes authorship by several of our resident trainees (Drs. Ben Bradley and Heather Maioli), and several faculty including Drs. Desiree Marshall, Haodong Xu, Gail Deutsch, and Behzad Najafian. Our attempts to accommodate pathology sign-out on a virtual basis included rapid deployment of whole slide imaging with validation, initially using neuropathology cases in order to enable diagnostic activities to be performed remotely on digital images. The entire process was initiated and validated within a short interval of several weeks, and was led by Jonathan Henriksen and Dr. Luis Gonzalez-Cuyar with the help of many others in the Department. This too has resulted in a publication, now in press, in the Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

The need to develop a meaningful medical school clerkship that could be undertaken remotely was enthusiastically addressed by a leadership team of Dr. Libby Parker, breast and gynecologic pathology fellow and incoming faculty member, as well as faculty members Drs. Oliver Chang and Lisa Koch and multiple trainees in our residency program. Within a matter of weeks, they devised a clerkship curriculum, activated the clerkship, and attracted numerous medical students who otherwise would not have had meaningful diagnostic pathology exposure in the course of their medical education. This clerkship has met with outstanding reviews by our students, while filling an important gap in their education. This experience also has been captured in a manuscript that is now undergoing review for publication at the time this newsletter is being assembled.

(Continued on next page)

COVID-19 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY (cont.)

These have been some of the immediate short-term successes of our response to COVID-19. The Department's responses have also spawned a number of additional research activities at both the clinical and basic science research levels, with the expectation that many of these collaborative efforts will take a longer period of time to come to full fruition. As department clinical volumes begin to approach our previous norms, and as our research labs slowly ramp up to higher levels of activity, I can say from my vantage point that we successfully weathered the immediate crisis of COVID infection, and we are well prepared to face whatever the new normal of our operations may be.

I would be remiss if I did not take note that the Department did not emerge unscathed from this crisis. One faculty member, Prof. Steve Schwartz, died as a result of COVID-19, and there is a tribute to Steve in this newsletter. A second faculty member was severely ill from COVID-19, but has recovered. Other members of our community lost close family members to this disease. This has been and continues to be a difficult and sobering experience for our community. The strong bonds we share in our pathology community and our care for one another were a key to our emergence from the immediate crises with which we were confronted.

Sincerely,
Charlie



IN THE NEWS



Scientific American Podcast

Listen to Dr. Desiree Marshall on Scientific American's podcast "COVID-19: What the Autopsies Reveal"

[Learn More](#)

2020 Top Doctors

Congratulations to our faculty members (Drs. Rochelle Garcia & Raj Kapur for Pathology, Dr. Kathleen Leppig for Clinical Genetics, and Drs. Michi Shinohara and Paul Nghiem for Dermatology) who were named 2020 Top Doctors by Seattle Magazine!

[Read More](#)



Last Week Tonight

See former CP resident and current UW Virology faculty member Dr. Alex Greninger on an episode of Last Week Tonight with John Oliver!

[Watch Now](#)

Save the date!

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, our 2020 Retreat, the first for the combined Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, will be held as a virtual Zoom meeting. Although we are in the process of finalizing the agenda, it will almost certainly take place on **Saturday September 12**, and will feature a Keynote presentation by Dr. David Louis, promotion of Diversity, and words from our Leadership.

GRANTS

Some recently awarded grants to faculty

Dr. George Martin has received a new research grant, subcontract to the Duke University R01, entitled: "Genetic and Non-Genetic Modulators of Morbidity/Disability Compression in a Large Population-Based Study of Cognitive and Physical Impairment with Emphasis on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias". **Dr. Junko Oshima** will be an active participant in this research project.

Martin Darvas, PhD (Pathology) and Warren Ladiges, DVM, MS (Comparative Medicine) have been awarded a new R01 grant as MPIs. The title of the grant is "A geroscience approach for treating Alzheimer's disease".

Grant award: U19 PIs: **C. Dirk Keene** and Edward Lein. "A platform for cell type-level transcriptomic, epigenomic and spatial interrogation of Alzheimer's disease."

Najafian Lab received an award from Amicus Therapeutics to study "GLA cross-correction in mosaic models of Fabry podocytopathy".

Nick Crispe (Pathology) and Steve Polyak (Lab Medicine) were awarded an R56 grant to develop the idea that ongoing liver disease after cure of HCV is mediated by ongoing PI3 kinase pathway activation

U19 AG060909 (contact PI-Ed Lein)

A platform for cell type-level transcriptomic, epigenomic and spatial interrogation of Alzheimer's disease

C. Dirk Keene: mPI

R01AG067193 (mPIs Warren Ladiges, Martin Darvas)

Title: A geroscience approach for treating Alzheimer's disease

Martin Darvas: Co-mPI

U01CA246503 (co-PIs: c, Rostomily); NIH/NCI

Title: Influence of pre-analytical factors in glioblastoma MGMT promoter methylation biomarker assay

PJ Cimino: Co-Investigator

FACULTY UPDATES

Faculty Arrivals

Dr. Elizabeth (“Libby”) Parker joins our faculty in anatomic pathology after completing her residency and fellowship in breast and gynecologic pathology with us at the University of Washington. She will join the breast and gynecologic pathology service. Libby brings a strong focus on education to our residency and medical school teaching programs.

Dr. Robert Mrak will be joining the neuropathology program on a part-time basis. After lengthy service as a neuropathologist and as chair of pathology at the University of Toledo in Ohio, Bob retired from those positions and relocated to Seattle this past summer. He will provide service and teaching in autopsy neuropathology.

Dr. Amber Nolan will be joining the neuropathology program in September. Dr. Nolan comes to us from UCSF, where she received her neuropathology training and currently serves as an assistant professor with a primary research focus in traumatic brain injury. Dr. Nolan will continue her research in traumatic brain injury and neurodegenerative diseases at the UW, while also providing clinical service in diagnostic neuropathology.

Dr. Robyn Reed joins our faculty at a clinical associate professor. She is currently a pediatric pathologist at Seattle Children’s Hospital.

Dr. Camtu Truong be appointed clinical assistant professor. In 2019, she took a position as a staff pathologist at the Boise VA Medical Center, returning to Seattle later in that same year to accept a position as a staff pathologist at the Seattle VA Health Care System (VAPSHCS).

Dr. Kathryn Scherpelz joins the Division of Anatomic Pathology as an acting assistant professor.

Faculty Promotions

Dr. Jennifer Davis was promoted to associate professor, joint with Bioengineering. Dr. Davis was also appointed director of the UW Center for Cardiovascular Biology and was named the current recipient of the Arra and Eva Woods Endowed Professorship in Cardiovascular Research.

Dr. Caitlin Latimer was promoted to assistant professor.

Dr. Lisa Koch was promoted to assistant professor.

FACULTY UPDATES (cont.)

Faculty Promotions

Dr. Mariya Sweetwyne was promoted to acting assistant professor. In 2016, Dr. Sweetwyne was appointed as an acting instructor in the Division of Nephrology, Department of Medicine and in 2017 was appointed as an acting instructor in the Department of Pathology where she currently works in the laboratory of Dr. Peter Rabinovitch.

Dr. Kathleen Leppig was appointed clinical professor of Pathology. Since 2000, Dr. Leppig has been Chief of Genetics at Group Health/Kaiser Permanente in Seattle.

Dr. Teresa Hyun will transition to clinical assistant professor. Dr. Hyun is currently an assistant professor in Pathology at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA), but is transitioning her appointment to a clinical track to better match her current and planned distribution of effort.

Faculty Departures

Dr. Jing Zhang (JZ), longtime holder of the Cheng Mei Shaw Professorship in Neuropathology, “retired” on February 1. Dr. Zhang actually left the UW to take a new position as chair of the Department of Pathology at Zhejiang University in China. Dr. Zhang's research program in neurodegenerative disease has been largely assumed by Drs. Min Shi, Tess Stewart, and Luis Gonzalez-Cuyar, all of whom remain on the faculty.

Dr. Rinda Soong will be leaving the faculty after two years of service as an attending on the breast and gynecologic pathology services.

Dr. Michael Rosenfeld is retiring in June after nearly 30 years as a UW professor.

Dr. Gordana Juric-Sekhar departed UW, after serving on the anatomic pathology faculty since 2015 as a member of the neuropathology division.

PUBLICATIONS

Read highlights from our Department's publications by clicking the link below!

[Read](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to this year's 32 remarkable Latinx faculty members (including Pathology faculty members Drs. Risques and Gonzalez-Cuyar) at UW for their cutting-edge scholarship, transformational leadership, and interdisciplinary activism!

[Learn more](#)

Dr. Joshua Russell is a postdoctoral scholar to be honored this year with an Undergraduate Research Mentor Award!



The National Institute on Aging has awarded a new T32 training program to **Dr. Matt Kaeberlein**. The Biological Mechanisms of Healthy Aging Training Program will provide cutting-edge training in biological mechanisms of aging for six post-doctoral fellows and six graduate students. Contact Shelby Knowles (shelbyk3@uw.edu) for more information.

Two AP/NP candidates matched for the 2022-2024 neuropathology fellowship:

- Daniel Child, MD, PhD. Perelman School of Medicine at University of Pennsylvania
- Meghan Chambers, MD. Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

Dr. Luis F. Gonzalez-Cuyar was part of a group hosting a Reference Laboratory booth at USCAP in Los Angeles, CA. This group also included Susan Rozell from Anatomic Pathology and our colleagues from the Department of Laboratory Medicine, including Michael Tull and Angela Yu from the Laboratory Medicine Reference Lab, with the support of Marcelo Collantes. Approximately 25% of the Neuropathology case volume is referral work, this includes more than 80% of all neuromuscular pathology cases. The team's efforts were directed at expanding neuropathology client base at a national level.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

The Division of Neuropathology together with **Jonathan Henriksen** and **Teresa Kologinczak** designed and executed a rapid validation study assessing the feasibility and diagnostic concordance of neuropathological diagnoses rendered via a WSI system when compared to the original diagnoses rendered using traditional histopathology. The study, consisting of 30 cases, was led by **Dr. Luis F. Gonzalez-Cuyar**, and included **Drs. Caitlin Latimer, PJ Cimino, Dirk Keene** and Neuropathology fellows Rebecca Yoda and Kathryn Scherpelz. This project sets the stage for a larger validation project involving multiple diagnostic groups within Anatomic Pathology.

Drs. C. Dirk Keene, Desiree Marshall, Kelly Smith, and others established COVID-19 Biorepository and Research Consortium, a joint collaborative COVID-19 research initiatives with UW, King County Medical Examiner's Office (KCME), Pierce County Medical Examiner's Office (PCME), Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office (SCME), and local hospitals.

Dr. C. Dirk Keene is an invited speaker to the spring ADRC Directors' Meeting

Over the course of the past year, the Neuropathology Division has been fortunate to secure three crucial gifts that will support the essential research happening in our lab. The Koeplin Family Foundation is actively supporting our Neuro-oncology Brain Repository and research utilizing these tissues by **Dr. PJ Cimino** and others to understand the molecular evolution of glioblastoma and neuroimaging-neuropathology correlations in honor of Patrick Koeplin. In addition, Bob and Linda Dahl (and hundreds of family and friends) are igniting the important work happening in the BioRepository and Integrated Neuropathology (BRaIN) laboratory to study the late neuropathological effects of traumatic brain injury (TBI) in honor of their son, Matt Dahl. And finally, through a planned gift, the Hill family is supporting **Dr. Caitlin Latimer's** research to understand gene expression changes associated with pathological TDP-43 deposition in Alzheimer's Disease and brain aging. Philanthropic gifts from our donors is essential to continuing to maintain the important Neuropathology research being done at UW and around the nation.

Dr. Desiree Marshall was named the 2020 Anatomic Pathology Faculty member of the Year by the Anatomic Pathology residents and fellows, noting her stellar teaching and mentoring as head of the autopsy service.

The Nathan Shock Center of Excellence in Basic Biology of Aging at the University of Washington renewal proposal received a perfect score and we anticipate that it will be renewed for another five-year cycle.

DOG AGING PROJECT WELCOMES NEW STAFF!

Welcome to the new members of the Dog Aging Project team (PI: Promislow)! Zulma Garcia (Program Coordinator), Shelby Knowles (Program Operations Specialist), and Eric Lint (Community Engagement Coordinator). Learn more at <https://dogagingproject.org/our-team/>



Zulma Garcia is a Program Coordinator for the Dog Aging Project based at the University of Washington, Seattle. She provides administrative support to the Project Cores, and Teams, which includes coordinating meetings, compiling meeting notes, documenting project status, and using project management tools to help advance programmatic milestones and study objectives. She also supports logistics and planning of the team-wide annual meeting along with public engagement and business development events. Zulma brings strong organizational skills, creativity, and enthusiasm for animals to the team.



Shelby Knowles is a project manager for the TRIAD Clinical Trial. Shelby is responsible for the coordination and successful execution of the many steps involved with Project 4, and ensuring consistent communication and awareness across the entire Project 4 team. Shelby has an extensive administrative background. Having completed her degree in Global Health, she is currently enrolled in a Project Management Certificate program through the University of Washington. Shelby previously worked with the University of Washington Medical Center.



Eric Lint works to keep our human participants engaged through the life of the Dog Aging Project. He is a UW Tacoma political science graduate and has over ten years experience in community management and communications strategy. Eric works closely with all parts of Core C, especially social media and external communications. He will be working 25% of the time from UW and 75% remote, serving as a bridge between our two primary sites. Eric will be reaching out to all parts of the project to ensure that expectations can be set around project milestones well in advance and so that we can leverage data to avoid participant drop off and meet our goals.

DEGREES AWARDED

Congratulations to everyone who received their degree in 2020!

Residency and Fellowship Program

Residency Graduates

Niklas Krumm, MD, PhD (becoming faculty 7/1/20)

Daniel Gallego, MD

James (Alex) Mays, MD

Abbye McEwen, MD, PhD

Marie Perrone, MD

David Wells, MD

Elizabeth Parker, MD (becoming faculty 7/1/20)

ACGME Fellowship Graduates:

Kristina Wakeman, MD – Bone & Soft Tissue Pathology

Sophia Shaddy, MD – Cytopathology

Rouba Hadi, MD - Dermatopathology

Irfan Chaudry, MD – Forensic Pathology

Robert Johnston, DO – Forensic Pathology

Xiaotun Zhang, MD – Genitourinary Pathology

Ryan Coates, MD – GI & Hepatic Pathology

Annie Samraj, MBBS – GI & Hepatic Pathology GRADUATING OFF-CYCLE

Jing Du, MD – Hematopathology

Ashley Eckel, MD, PhD – Hematopathology

Kendal Jensen, MD, PhD – Molecular & Genetic Pathology

Jessica Saunders, MD, MS – Pediatric Pathology

Selvaraj Muthusamy, MD, PhD – Renal Pathology

Lisa Han, MD – Surgical Pathology

Jessica Rogers, MD – Surgical Pathology GRADUATING OFF-CYCLE

Thomas Long, MD – Surgical Pathology

Non-ACGME Graduates

Michael Backlund, PhD – Clinical Microbiology

Heather Glasgow, PhD – Clinical Microbiology

Hsuan-Chieh (Joyce) Liao, PhD – Clinical Chemistry (becoming faculty 8/1/20)

Benjamin Owusu, PhD – Clinical Chemistry

DEGREES AWARDED (cont.)

Congratulations to everyone who received their degree in 2020!

2020 Medical Scientist Training Program Graduates and Residency Matches

NAME	INSTITUTION	SPECIALTY
Erin dela Cruz	UC San Francisco	Internal Medicine
Max Dougherty	Icahn SOM at Mount Sinai-NY	Internal Medicine, Research Track
Alevtina Gall	University of Washington	Pediatrics
Alexandra Grier	St. Louis Children's Hospital	Pediatrics, PSTP
Gabriel Heymann	Yale-New Haven Hospital	Internal Medicine
Jason Klein	Memorial Sloan-Kettering	Transitional 1yr
	U Texas Southwestern	Dermatology
Paul Lindau	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Internal Medicine, Research Track
Natalie Longino	University of Colorado SOM Denver	Internal Medicine, PSTP
Heather Machkovech	U Wisconsin Hospital and Clinic	Internal Medicine
Sophia Masi	University of Washington	Child Neurology
Aaron Seo	Virginia Mason Medical Center	Internal Medicine 1yr
	U Texas MD Anderson Cancer Ctr	Radiation Oncology
Cassandra Simonich	University of Washington	Pediatrics – Research Track
Theo Sottero	U Texas Southwestern Medical School	Internal Medicine
William Valente	University of Minnesota Medical School	Internal Medicine, PSTP

Greg Findlay is also graduating from MSTP this year and has accepted a faculty position at The Francis Crick Institute in London. In addition, we are excited to announce the first PhD graduate of our joint partnership with Morehouse School of Medicine and the UW MSTP.

Miles Freeman is a graduating Molecular & Cell Biology PhD student who worked with Dr. Robb MacLellan on cardiac regeneration. He will now return to Morehouse School of Medicine to complete his medical school training there.

DEGREES AWARDED (cont.)

Congratulations to everyone who received their degree in 2020!

M3D PhD Program Final Dissertation Defenses



JENNY BROWN
 "Mechanism of diabetes remission induced by the central action of Fibroblast Growth Factor 1"



DENISE CHAC
 "Deciphering the relationship among nutrition, host, and microbe"



CHELSEA L. FABER
 "Identification of hypothalamic neural circuits regulating glucose and energy homeostasis"



CHARLOTTE A. JAMES
 "Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms of Mycobacterial Glycolipid Recognition by Human T Cells"



THAO PHAM
 "Identifying and Characterizing Novel Targets against Rhabdomyosarcoma Disease Relapse"

The following students are defending during summer quarter!



MELISSA C. KORDAHI



KELLY JIN



MICHAEL CARGILL

WELCOME TO OUR NEW RESIDENTS!



Bitania Wondimu
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



Rebecca Treger
Yale School of Medicine



Meagan Chambers
Geisel School of Medicine at
Dartmouth



Matthew Hogan
Virginia Commonwealth
University School of
Medicine



Ritika Walia
Post Graduate Institute of
Medical Education and
Research, Dr. Ram Manohar
Lohia Hospital



Jason Siu
Ohio State University
College of Medicine



Andrew Laitman
Baylor College of Medicine



Daniel Child
Perelman School of Medicine
at the University of
Pennsylvania



Claudia Tenen
Columbia University Vagelos
College of Physicians and
Surgeons

AWARDS

2020 Building Bridges Awards (BBA)

The Departments of Pathology (DoP) and Laboratory Medicine (Lab Med) will support pilot project(s) that facilitate partnerships in either of two categories:

1. Partnerships between at least two faculty (DoP or Lab Med) that bridge between the basic and clinical sciences. At least one faculty applicant must be at a junior level of appointment.
2. Partnerships between at least one Laboratory Medicine and at least one Pathology faculty member (in any Divisions), one of whom should be at a junior level of appointment.

Drs. Akilesh and Lieberman: Development of a Multiplexed Fluorescence in situ Hybridization Clinical Assay for Species-Specific Identification of Fungal Pathogens in Tissue (\$19,864)

Drs. Sanchez-Contreras, Latimer, and Darvas: Neuron-specific somatic mosaicism in brain regions susceptible to Alzheimer's Disease (\$20,000)

Winter 2020 Accountable Care Organization (ACO)

Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Pilot Grant program is a trainee research support opportunity for UW Medicine Pathology Residents and Fellows providing financial support for projects using existing or novel methods that demonstrably improve quality, safety, service, and/or access while containing the cost of care.

Dr. Trent Irwin: "Sensitivity and specificity of Desmoplakin I/II in differentiating graft versus host disease and the erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and toxic epidermal necrolysis mucocutaneous spectrum disorders". Faculty mentor: **Dr. Michi Shinohara**

Dr. Selvaraj Muthusamy: "Gene expression analysis to improve the accuracy of pathological diagnosis of clinically relevant antibody mediated rejection in renal allograft biopsies". Faculty mentor: **Dr. Kelly Smith**

AWARDS (cont.)

2020 True-Brown Fellowship for Junior Faculty Development

This is a newly created Fellowship, to be awarded annually, that is meant to provide resources to foster the academic career of a junior faculty member. One award (currently \$9300) will be made to a Junior Faculty member with an MD or MD/PhD degree, for support of any academic activity that would advance the applicant's promise as a physician scientist/investigator. Congratulations to **Dr. Caitlin Latimer!**

2020 Martin-Reichenbach Endowment Junior Faculty Award

This new award, to be granted annually, is meant to foster the academic career of junior faculty members by supporting research projects that show high promise of obtaining follow-on extramural funding. A total of \$40,000 is available to support up to two projects.

Dr. PJ Cimino: Characterizing Candidate Tumor Suppressor Genes in Glioma (\$19,700)

Dr. Jessica Young: Human stem cell approaches to understand inflammatory impacts on the neurovascular niche in Alzheimer's disease (\$20,300)

EVENTS

For upcoming events, visit our calendar
pathology.washington.edu/events

[See Calendar](#)

Follow us on social media to keep up with
department news and events!

@uwpathology



[linkedin.com/school/uwpathology](https://www.linkedin.com/school/uwpathology)