Imagine, if you will, it is a Friday afternoon, late June, and you are signing out cases with your attending. By next Monday, you are the attending, signing out your own cases. Not many other professional careers have a "transitional period", which is essentially no transitional period at all, like this one. This is the practice of multiple Pathology residency training programs today.

Long ago, Pathology residents enjoyed the ability to function as an attending in their senior years of training. Unfortunately, this capability was changed secondary to certain necessary alterations in the guidelines set forth by Medicare. When a resident functions as an attending, there is a mental acceptance, a "state of mind", that enforces ownership of one’s cases. The Pathology Residency Training Committee (RTC) at the University of Florida is putting plans in place to hopefully return this function to our residents.

How will this work? With the residents’ acquired experience and skill, they will be given permission to determine when the need for direct supervision is required. The RTC will review each resident throughout their training, making an assessment of each resident’s aptitude. As experience is gained, additional responsibilities are added. For example, starting with specimen triage at the time of frozen section (FS), to FS for organ procurement, FS for tumor margin assessment, FS for lymph node metastasis, and so on. Also an issue, is to know when to ask for help. It will be emphasized that the faculty members responsible for the particular service or on-call will always be available to provide direct supervision. The resident should never hesitate to ask for direction when needed.
Kathy Brill’s Retirement

By Jackie Russo, MD

This year’s outgoing fellows and seniors have big and exciting plans! We are especially lucky to have a few staying on at UF and are truly going to miss those whose path leads them elsewhere.

OUT-GOING FELLOWS:

David Grier, M.D. is originally from South Carolina. He graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2001. Following graduation, he and his family moved to warm and sunny Gainesville for his pathology training. David was a member of the last 5-year AP/CP class, and is currently our Hematopathology fellow. In a few months, he will be moving back to the Carolinas, North Carolina this time, to start his career in pathology at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, where he will practice general surgical pathology and hematopathology. David has been an exceptional teacher of the residents, especially when it comes to flow cytometry (which he refers to as “flowtopia”). “He’s an exceptionally creative person and keeps things very exciting. We’re really going to miss him,” stated Dr. Yang.

J. Michael Magill, Jr., M.D. is originally from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Prior to entering medical school, Mike owned a valet parking company in Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. After completing his undergraduate studies at Florida St. University, Mike entered the Program in Medical Sciences (PIMS) program at FSU, and completed the final three years of his medical education at the University of Florida. He earned his M.D. in 2003. Mike entered his AP/CP residency the same year, but had a unique opportunity to complete a one-year fellowship in dermatopathology following his third year of residency; he will rejoin the residency program in July to complete his fourth year of training. During his residency he served as Associate Chief Resident (2005-2006), co-founder of the newsletter, AMA delegate and alternate delegate at the CAP Resident Forum, Member of the Resident Forum Executive Committee for CAP, member of the Future of Pathology Committee for the CAP, liaison for ASCP, and was recipient of the Teaching Award from the UF College of Medicine. Of note, Mike is also a very talented skate boarder. Dr. Alvarez says "Mike has been an asset to the Dermatopathology Unit and he will be a true success wherever his career takes him.”

Jingsin Qiu, M.D., Ph.D. is from Beijing, China, where he attended Beijing Medical University. Jing completed a Masters Degree in Biochemistry in 1995, and earned his Ph.D. in Neuroscience in 2001, followed by two years of post-doctoral training at the University of Texas. Jing joined the Department of Pathology at UF in 2003 in a combined Anatomic Pathology/Neuropathology program. Jing will remain at UF to further his neuropathology studies and brain tumor research. As the recipient of the Travel Award from the Histochemical Society, he will also be traveling to Washington, D.C. There he will be receiving the Rubinstein Award for Best Paper on Neuro- oncology Presented at the Annual Meeting”. To say the least, "Jing is very talented and is very passionate about his research and we’re lucky to have him as part of the team,” stated Dr. Yachnis.

Christopher Price, M.D. was born in Pasadena, California. He graduated from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in 2002, then joined our department for his Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency, which he completed in 2006. Chris served as Chief Resident (2004-2005). Chris spent the past year as a Post-doctoral Associate concentrating on Gastrointestinal and Liver pathology. This fall, he will join the Ketchum-Wood-Burgert group in Tallahassee, Florida where he will practice general pathology. In addition, Chris and his wife Dawn are expecting their first child in June. Dr. Dixon sums it up best by saying "It is such a pleasure to work with Chris. He made the year a lot of fun and he’ll definitely be missed.”

Rachel Redman, M.D. is originally from Boca Raton, Florida. She graduated from the University of Miami School of Medicine in 1998, and completed a three-year Internal Medicine Residency at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami. Rachel started her AP/CP training at UF in 2002. Following completion of her pathology residency in 2006, Rachel remained at UF for a Cytopathology fellowship. Her future plans take her to Munroe Regional Medical Center in Ocala, Florida, where she will practice general pathology. Although she completed more than half of her education in Miami, she is a devoted Gator fan. Rachel is an incredible teacher and we will all miss her witty sense of humor. "Rachel is sincere, hard-working, and a lot of fun to work with. She has not only become a colleague to many of us in the department, but also a great friend and we will definitely miss her,” said Dr. Knapik.

Continued on page 3
OUT-GOING RESIDENTS:

Dominique Coco, M.D., graduated from medical school at Louisiana State University in New Orleans in 2001. In 2003, after completing two years of general surgery at UF, he joined the pathology residency program. Dom has been extremely active throughout his residency. He was a co-founder of this newsletter, held the position of chief resident (2005-2006), and served as the only resident member of the Clinical Practices Committee at Shands Hospital. Dom also sat on the Board of Directors for the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP), and served as the secretary and chair of the ASCP Resident Council. During his residency, he became the proud father to son Benjamin. Dom is heading for Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, to complete a one-year fellowship in general surgical pathology, followed by a one-year fellowship in gastrointestinal pathology. “Dom pays amazing attention to detail and is always willing to go the extra mile”, says Dr. Yachnis.

Andrew Fletcher, M.D. is originally from Australia. He moved across the globe to Macon, Georgia, when he was 16 years old. Andrew graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in 1995 as a physician’s assistant. He worked in various areas such as trauma, pediatrics, and surgery. Andrew then went on to medical school at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. After completing one year of ENT residency training at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville Pennsylvania, he transferred to UF to join our pathology residency training program. Andrew will stay one more year to do the cytopathology fellowship.

Dr. Yachins states, “Andrew is always willing to step up to the plate. Even when something crazy happens on call, like two researchers fighting over the same piece of tissue, he stays cool and resolves the problem.” We look forward to another year of canoe trips, rock climbing and other outdoor fun that Andrew is so good at organizing!

Guest Lecturer Series

By Crystal Jenkins, MD

One valuable part of resident training at the University of Florida Department of Pathology is our yearly visiting lecture series. This provides an opportunity for the residents to gain knowledge about aspects of pathology from experts in their fields. It is also a chance to learn about how resident training is conducted at other institutions. This year we have already had the pleasure of learning from two exceptional lecturers, with a third, Dr. Virginia Livolsi still to come for the Resident Research Day Symposium.

Dr. Walter H Henricks, III is Director of the Center for Pathology Informatics and Staff Pathologist in the Division of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at The Cleveland Clinic. He was invited by the residents of the Department of Pathology to visit the University of Florida on November 13, 2006. Dr. Henricks has held multiple positions on a national level including: President (2004) and Vice President (2006) of the Association for Pathology Informatics, Vice-Chair of the Informatics Committee (2006) for the College of American Pathologists (CAP), and Interim Chair of the Informatics Resource Council (2004-2005) for the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). He has taken on numerous leadership roles at national meetings and is also a peer-reviewer of several journals including, the American Journal of Clinical Pathology and Human Pathology. He has also authored over twenty publications and held numerous pathology informatics courses and teleconferences nationwide.

The residents spent an entire day with Dr. Henricks. He gave a thorough discussion on Informatics entitled, “Laboratory Data Management in the Era of the Electronic Medical Record.” He specifically discussed Laboratory Information Systems (LIS) functions and management. The residents also had an opportunity to meet with him informally during lunch to ask questions about informatics and resident life at The Cleveland Clinic.

Dr. Alan Schiller, Professor and Chairman of the Pathology Department at The Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, was invited by the residents to lecture at the University of Florida on December 7, 2006. Dr. Schiller has received numerous awards including being listed in America’s Top Doctors for Cancer (2005), Leading Health Professionals of the World (2005), Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers Selected by the Best Students (2004), and American Top Doctors (2002). He also served on the Board of Directors for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute at NASA in 2001.

Dr. Schiller currently serves on several editorial boards including Modern Pathology and Annals of Diagnostic Pathology. He has been invited to lecture at numerous teaching hospitals throughout the country and has authored over 140 publications.

Dr. Schiller gave two lectures during his visit. His morning presentation was an unknown slide session for the residents on benign bone lesions. The lunch meeting with the residents was a rousing discussion of Dr. Schiller’s many adventures in the practice and teaching of pathology. His afternoon presentation to faculty and residents was entitled, “Reactive Lumps and Bumps of Bone.” His energy and enthusiasm for the subject were quite memorable.

The yearly lecture series is not only an outstanding contribution to resident education, it affords an opportunity to meet with some of the best minds in Pathology. Both the residents and the faculty greatly appreciate the time and effort of our guest speakers. We look forward to meeting with Dr. Livolsi in June and all the future lecturers.
Once again, we are proud of our department’s representation at the 96th annual USCAP meeting held in San Diego, California at the end of March. In total, our residents, fellows, and faculty presented 7 posters and 2 platforms:

**Platform Presentations:**
- Factitious Intravascular Crystalline Granulomata: Sudden Death in Closet Intravenous Drug Abusers.
  - SZ Al-Quran, JM Magill, D Werner, SF Stoeffler and WH Donnelly
- Telomerase Overexpression by Flow Cytometry in Myelodysplastic Syndrome
  - KA Iczkowski, D Coco, JA Iturraspe and CG Pantazis

**Poster Presentations:**
- DRAQ5 Based No-Lyse No-Wash Bone Marrow Aspirate Evaluation by Flow Cytometry
  - RW Allan, M.A. Ansari-Lari and S. Jordan
- Identification of Hepatocyte Paraffin 1 (Hep Par 1) Antigen
  - SL Butler, HJ Dong, R Zheng, MH Jia, JM Crawford and C Liu
- Trials of New Germ Cell Immunohistochemical Stains in 52 Extranodal and Metastatic Germ Cell Tumors
  - SL Butler, KA Iczkowski, JH Shanks, D Hossain, A Schall, I Meiers, SJ Kim and GT MacLennan
- Sinusoidal Dilatation in Human Liver Biopsies Rarely Results from Hepatic Venous Outflow Obstruction
  - CR Price and J M Crawford
- A Low Ki-67 Proliferation Index in Atypical Ductal Hyperplasia Diagnosed on Breast Core Biopsy Is Not Associated with the Presence of Ductal Carcinoma In Situ on Subsequent Excision
  - JW Henderson, SZ Al-Quran, JA Preifer, O Hameed

Value of Plasma CMV-PCR and CMV-IHC for Detecting CMV Pneumonitis in Asymptomatic Lung Transplant Recipients
- JM Magill, AB Deem, PA Drew and MA Baz

Value of Silver Stains on BAL Fluid in Lung Transplant Recipients
- JM Magill, SS Goldstein, MA Baz and PA Drew

Once again, Dr. Yachnis was one of the guest presenters, as was Dr. Suzanne Powell a former fellow, during the neuropathology specialty conference in which he presented a rare case of EBV associated smooth muscle tumor. Dr. Crawford moderated the Hans Popper Hepatopathology Society Companion meeting in which our own Dr. Chen Liu and Dr. Patricia Abbott, from the UF Radiology Department, were 2 of the invited speakers discussing selected topics on liver tumors.

Drs. Crystal Jenkins and Diana Cardona represented our residency program as our College of American Pathologists (CAP) Resident Forum Delegates. During the forum, Dr. Cardona was recognized as one of the CAP Foundation’s Young Leader Award recipients for 2006. Additionally, 3rd year resident Samantha Butler was awarded a stipend by the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP), providing her with the opportunity to participate in a specialty senior externship in Breast pathology at Vanderbilt University with Dr. David Page.

On Sunday evening, the 3rd annual alumni dinner was held at the lovely Bali Hai Restaurant on Shelter Island overlooking the bay. We were pleased to see many former residents, fellows and faculty members, including Drs. Mousa A. Al-Abbadi, Eoin Gaffney, Hal K. Hawkins, Wei Huang, Suzanne Z. Powell, Cirilo Sotelo-Avila and Michelle Williams. The evening was a time of reconnecting with colleagues and rekindling old friendships. We offer our most sincere thanks to Dr. James Crawford, who graciously hosted this event to celebrate another successful year in pathology. The department would like to thank everyone who participated in the meeting and those alumni who were able to attend the dinner. We hope to see you at next year’s USCAP meeting in Denver!
Digital Microscopy Comes to UF Pathology

By Mänette Monroe, MD

Imagine sharing microscopic images for a consult without having to ship glass slides. What if you could develop a tissue bank for research that could be shared by other investigators around the world at the click of a mouse? Better yet, how about reviewing your caseload from your computer desktop anywhere that is most convenient for you?

Our department is taking the first steps down this path to the future with the acquisition of an Aperio ScanScope system for digital pathology. This instrument provides microscopic-quality digital scanning technology. Beginning in March 2007, the initial application of this technology will be to produce high-resolution digital images of slides from human and animal tumors to serve in either research or for educational purposes.

The Molecular Pathology Core Laboratory chief investigator, Martha Campbell-Thompson, DVM has been awarded a grant from the International Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) to use digital imaging to develop a virtual pancreas tissue bank. This tissue bank will be the central repository for all organs and tissues (pancreas, pancreatic lymph nodes, non-pancreatic lymph nodes and spleen). Initially, these tissues will come from transplant centers in Denver and Miami, with the intent of expanding the number of participating centers in the future. Tissue embedding, sectioning, whole organ serial sections and immunohistochemical staining culminating in slide scanning and image storage via a web-server will be done in the Molecular Pathology Core Laboratory. These images will be available for worldwide access by other JDRF researchers.

In conjunction with the funding from the JDRF, our department has co-invested in this technology with a focus on resident education. The scanner will be available for resident use beginning in July 2007. An initial use will be for resident unknown conferences in the early fall, where the slides will only be available on line. Though static slide images have been used often in the past, these images will be dynamic and offer an interface strikingly similar to a conventional microscope. Another application will be integrating digital images into interdepartmental conferences. No longer will presenters have to carry a tray of glass slides or rely on still images in order to present a case to our colleagues in other departments.

The use of digital microscopy is definitely becoming more prevalent. Anyone who has taken the Pathology board examination in recent years has also seen a version of this type of interface. Digital slides are also being used extensively at UF in first year medical school education and are certain to be used in such ways throughout the country.

Though the resolution of the virtual slides still falls short under the highest magnification, the technology is improving rapidly. A huge advantage will be in the storage of slide images. Ideally, lost or faded slides can become a thing of the past. In addition to digital image storage, software is available to analyze immunohistochemical staining based on pixel counts. This software can offer actual counts and percentages of stained cells.

If and how each individual pathologist will choose to utilize this technology remains to be seen. Perhaps, our experiences here at UF will help shed light on the advantages and shortcomings of digital microscopy. We look forward to the opportunity to explore what may become an important part of our future practice of pathology.

Gracious Faculty Host Resident Parties

By Nicholas Lancia, MD

In recent years, the residents here at UF have had the privilege of being invited to the homes of different faculty members. This year, aside from the much appreciated Chairman’s July 4th and Christmas parties, the residents have also been to the homes of Dr. Peter Drew and Dr. Luis Alvarez.

For two years, Dr. Drew and his wife Patty have been very generous in hosting the resident Halloween party. This year, Dr. Drew was an impressive Roman centurion and his wife made their home into a veritable shrine of Halloween decor. Some of his guests—costumed ninjas, hippies, flappers, prison escapees, vampires and vampires—were appropriately ostentatious. Of course, it isn’t really a party unless there is finger food—and there were plenty of delectable snacks. Most importantly, everyone had a great time.

Dr. Alvarez and his wife Sue hosted a barbeque for the residents this spring. He has done so for 2 years now, and it continues to be a great opportunity to mingle in a comfortable social setting. The food was amazing (I still want that secret BBQ pork recipe), but the real draw for most was the hospitality of the host. His family’s farm is tucked away in rural Williston. His daughter, Carmen, is a well know breeder of Paso Fino horses and was kind enough to provide horses to ride.

Two of the keys to a happy and productive residency are balance and a strong peer social network. We are extremely grateful to our faculty who have opened their homes and so amicably shared their time with us. From Journal Club to holiday gatherings, we hope that our attendings have benefited from these interactions as much as we have!
Moving up to Chief Resident for the 2007-2008 year is Samantha Butler, MD. and joining her is the new Associate Chief Resident, Mänette Monroe, MD.

Journal club schedule for this academic year is in the works. EVERYONE is welcome to attend. Following dinner, 2-3 articles are presented and discussed at a sponsoring attending's house. Subjects will include GYN cytology, GI/Liver, Renal, Breast, Forensics and Bone/Soft tissue. If you are interested in more information please refer to our website, www.pathology.ufl.edu under “Resident Calendar” or contact Dr. Graham Jones at jonesag@pathology.ufl.edu.

Please check our website, www.pathology.ufl.edu. There is a link for Alumni information. Just follow the links above and look for “Alumni”. Please check to see if your information is correct. We would also appreciate any up-dates on information about your fellow residents that are not listed.