

May 1, 2004



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**Welcome Alumni**

GREETINGS TO ALL UF PATHOLOGY ALUMNI! We welcome you to the first edition of the UF pathology newsletter, *Florida Pathology*. A volunteer committee of residents, in conjunction with a resident-chosen faculty advisor, has decided to publish a biannual newsletter focusing on news from our department, the UF Health Science Center, Shands Hospital, and the UF pathology alumni. Our mission is to create a forum in which alumni, faculty, fellows, and residents of the University of Florida Department of Pathology can discuss issues concerning the practice of pathology, improving our training program, and reestablishing the relationships between our department and alumni. In future editions, we will highlight the current UF faculty and residents and discuss the major changes that have occurred within the department over the last few years. Please take the time to send us information about yourself and any information that you would like to share in our newsletter. In each edition, a page will be devoted specifically to alumni news so that this information can be shared. We hope that you find this newsletter informative and that it gives you an opportunity to reconnect. Thanks and keep in touch!

-Newsletter Staff

**Renowned Geneticist is 2004 Resident Research Day Guest Speaker**

by David Grier

This year's keynote speaker for Resident Research Day will be Dr. Julia A. Bridge, Associate Director of Clinical Genetics at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

As an undergraduate at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Dr. Bridge began her first genetics research project analyzing mouse tumor cell lines under the direction of Dr. John Brumbaugh. At the University of Nebraska College of Medicine, she continued her involvement with genetic research with an investigation of clinical

dysmorphisms under the supervision of Drs. Warren Sanger and Bruce Buehler. After graduation, she entered the pathology residency at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC). Her research endeavors continued at KUMC with the creation of a cytogenetics laboratory to evaluate first lymphomas, then bone and soft tissue tumors. In the final year of her residency, she received her first

*By 1990, she had completed training in anatomic pathology, cytogenetics, molecular cytogenetics, and molecular biology, an accomplishment that only 15 people in the world can claim.*

grant from the Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation. The final six months of her residency training were spent as a special fellow in cytogenetics, completing the usual two-year training requirement during this time, after which she was granted eligibility status by the American Board of Medical Genetics. After residency, she simultaneously held an appointment in the KUMC Department of Pathology, was a

fellow in molecular biology at the Southwest Biomedical Research Institute in Scottsdale, Arizona, and ran her own research laboratory. By 1990, she had completed training in anatomic pathology, cytogenetics, molecular cytogenetics, and molecular biology, an accomplishment that only 15 people in the world can claim.

Returning to the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 1991, she served as Associate Director of Clinical Genetics, established a solid tumor

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## From the Chair

**W**elcome to our inaugural newsletter. As is evident, we have an outstanding group of current residents spearheading the creation of this newsletter. This is also an unusual year, in that we have a graduating class of six residents, each of whom are going on to outstanding fellowships or other career opportunities. The overarching events are the changes in leadership positions in the department. These reflect the inevitable process of time (and a bit of a domino effect), and I am delighted that we have a rising generation of faculty as our new leaders. I want to extend my deep personal thanks to each individual who is stepping down from their directorships: Dr. Sigurd Normann for his legendary Directorship of the Pathology courses in the medical school, Dr. William Winter for his outstanding leadership of our Residency Program over most of the past 10 years, and Dr. William Donnelly for his dedicated leadership of the Autopsy service. I look forward to working with our new leaders as we move forward: Bill Winter as Director of Pathology Education, John Reith as Director of the Residency Program, and Jacquelyn Knapik as Autopsy Director. Thank you all for your support of our Residency Program and department.



Dr. Crawford

## The Faculty Buzz

by Dominique Coco

**A**s of July 1, 2004, Dr. John Reith will assume the role of Residency Program Director for the University of Florida Department of Pathology. Dr. Reith has been an assistant professor in the department for six years and is the Director of the Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology Unit. Dr. Reith joined the UF faculty in 1998, serving as the co-director of the Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology Unit. In June of 2000, he was appointed Director. He has been active in the residency program since his arrival, serving as a key member on the Residency Training Committee and providing direct "hands on" training as well as regular didactic lectures. He is well respected by the residents and was named "Educator of the Year" in 2001. "I am honored and excited to be named the Residency Director. I believe that maintaining a quality residency program is important to the continued success of our department," says Dr. Reith.

## Resident Research Day Guest Speaker

(Continued from page 1)

component to the program, and developed a molecular cytogenetics and molecular genetics program. There she pioneered molecular diagnostic testing for Fragile X Syndrome. She assumed clinical duties on the cytopathology service and is a regular lecturer to medical and graduate students. In

He will be replacing Dr. William Winter, who has served as program director for 10 of the last 12 years. He says, "I am delighted that Dr. Reith has agreed to become program director. I am sure that Dr. Reith will further improve a very solid program." Dr. Winter will remain involved in residency training as a member of the Residency Training Committee and he has accepted the position of Medical Student Program Director. Although the residents will miss Dr. Winter's leadership, they are excited about the new appointment and look forward to future. The newly appointed chief resident, Chris Price, says of Dr. Reith, "I believe that the residents can relate to Dr. Reith and that he will be an excellent mentor and advocate for our program."

Dr. Winter will be filling the position of Medical Student Program Director as Dr. Sigurd Normann steps down to prepare for retirement. Dr. Normann held the position for many years and

was a popular teacher of countless medical students.

Dr. William Donnelly will be stepping down as the Unit Director of Autopsy Services on July 1, 2004, ending a six-year term. As he nears retirement, he hopes to devote more time to informatics: completing the anatomical pathology database, developing a pediatric pathology database, and testing the CSI "cybercoder" using SNOMED-CT. "I also plan to get more involved in music," says Dr. Donnelly.

Taking over the position of Unit Director of Autopsy Services is Dr. Jacquelyn Knapik. Dr. Knapik is an alumna of the department. Following completion of a pathology residency ('97-'02) and cytopathology fellowship ('03), she joined the faculty in 2003. Dr. Knapik has played an active role in the gynecological, bone and soft tissue, cytology, and autopsy

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collaboration with Vysis, Inc., she was instrumental in gaining FDA approval for the PathVysion Her-2/neu genetic test for breast cancer prognosis and the UroVysion FISH analysis for bladder cancer recurrence.

As of March 2004, Dr. Bridge has authored or co-authored 139 papers, a book, and 26 chapters. She serves on the editorial boards

of *Cancer Genetics and Cytogenetics* and *The Journal of Molecular Diagnostics*, and is a reviewer for 15 other journals. In 2003, she received the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) Young Investigator Award. She has received awards from both orthopaedic and pathology organizations and has served on several USCAP committees.

## Outstanding Outgoing Residents

by Chris Price

As time passes, we meet new people and learn new concepts. We must also say goodbye to some whom we have come to know over the years. This year, six residents will be leaving the program. Five of them will be departing UF as they move on in their careers. Each has left his or her unique mark on this program.



**Dr. Williams**

After serving her final year as chief resident, Michelle Williams will be moving to Houston, Texas where she will begin a surgical pathology residency at the MD Anderson Cancer Center, to be followed by an ENT pathology fellowship. Michelle joined the pathology program after a year of surgical internship and has completed three years of pathology training. She has always been an outspoken

leader among the residents.



**Dr. Huang**

Since transferring from the Shands/Jacksonville program to Gainesville, Wei Huang has set a course for recognition in her field. Her next endeavor will be a fellowship in genitourinary pathology at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Although originally from China, she says she will miss Gainesville because it "is like a second hometown" to her.



**Dr. Roberts**

Christena Roberts is actually looking forward to living with snow. An Ohio native, Christena began her education at UF, and then attended medical school at the University of South Florida in Tampa. She transferred from the USF pathology program to complete her final two years in

Gainesville. She says she will miss the friends she has made here when she moves to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to begin her forensic pathology fellowship.



**Dr. Anest**

After spending all five years as a pathology resident in Gainesville, Nicole Anest is also looking forward a change in climate. Her experience has not only served her well, it has also been invaluable to the junior residents that have trained with her. The residency program will not be the same without her. She intends to go into private practice.



**Dr. Werner**

Dietrich Werner has spent four years training at UF. He leaves to start a surgical pathology fellowship in Chicago, after which he plans to begin a hematopathology

fellowship. No stranger to big cities, he is looking forward to a return to the metropolitan lifestyle he enjoyed as an intern in internal medicine in New York City.



**Dr. Rufforny**

Irina Rufforny's education has taken her nearly halfway around the world, from Kemerovo, Russia, to Toledo, Ohio, to Gainesville. After finishing the last three years of her residency, she has decided to support the Gators for another year and remain for her cytopathology fellowship. She looks forward to the knowledge our world-renowned faculty will impart to her.

Fortunately, we do not have to say goodbye to all those leaving the residency program this year. We thank them for what they have contributed to the program, and wish them the best in the future.

## Resident and Fellow Research to be Presented at 2004 Resident Research Day

by Rachel Redman

In 1998, the Residency Training Committee decided that all residents would present research on at least two occasions during their training. Resident Research Day was created for this purpose and will be held on May 8, 2004. This year's presentations promise to be informative and exciting. Some of the planned topics for discussion include:

Steven Atkinson (PGY4) - p63 and Ki-67 expression in cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas and seborrheic keratoses.

Christena Roberts (PGY5) - Validity of postmortem morphine concentrations in determining cause and manner of death in forensic investigation.

Rachel Redman (PGY2) - Frequency of ABO blood group types in patients with invasive squamous cell carcinoma of the vulva.

Chris Price (PGY2) - Hepatocyte injury in alpha-1-antitrypsin deficiency.

Bo Hong (PGY3) - Characterization of papillary squamotransitional cell carcinoma of the cervix.

Michelle Williams (PGY4) - DNA ploidy and S-phase analysis in predicting recurrence rate and malignant transformation in respiratory papillomas.

Samer Al-Quran (Hematopathology Fellow) - Pitfalls of bone marrow aspirate assessment of plasma cell infiltrates.

Mara Rush (Cytopathology Fellow) - Correlation of pathologic findings on endometrial biopsies in women with a thickened endometrial stripe on ultrasound.

Natalie Depcik-Smith (Dermatopathology Fellow) - Diagnostic pitfalls of focal regression-like changes in dysplastic back nevi.

The day will be concluded with a talk by this year's guest lecturer, Dr. Julia Bridge (see page 1). We hope that you can join us!

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Special thanks to Dr. William Donnelly.

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### **Faculty Buzz**

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services. She is very excited about the new appointment. "This will be a challenging transition for everyone. Dr. Donnelly is irreplaceable and does many things behind the scenes that most people are not aware of," says Dr. Knapik.

Please send us your information via email:

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