In our last newsletter, we told you that we were involved in an extensive faculty recruitment effort to increase and expand our clinical expertise. We are excited to announce that we will be welcoming three new faculty members over the next couple of months; please see the section on our new faculty members highlighted in this issue. Our faculty and residents continue to be recognized for outstanding service to the University and their academic disciplines and we are excited to bring in three new residents for the 2012-2013 year. Construction on the new academic medical center is progressing at an amazing rate. To help you keep up with the progress, we have included a link to the construction camera on our Departmental website. As you consider your charitable donations this year, please consider making a donation to the Department. We will be happy to work with you in directing your donation to the area of the Department you desire. Your generosity allows for the enrichment and expansion of our programs. Please take the time to visit our webpage www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/pathology to keep abreast of the latest news in our Department.

Richard S. Vander Heide, M.D., Ph.D.,
Jack Perry Strong Professor and Chair

NEW FACULTY

Ritu Bhalla, M.D., will join the Department on June 1, 2012 as Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology. Dr. Bhalla completed her residency at Summa Health Systems in Akron, Ohio. She is board certified in Cytopathology and has also completed fellowships in Surgical Pathology and GU Pathology.

Angie Duong, M.D., will join the Department in July of 2012 as Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology. Dr. Duong completed her residency at the Medical University of South Carolina and will complete a fellowship in Hematopathology at Yale University in July of 2012.

Maria del Carmen Frías Kletecka, M.D., will join the Department in July of 2012 as Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology. Dr. Frías Kletecka, completed her residency at Case Western University in Cleveland, Ohio and is board certified in Molecular Genetic Pathology and will complete a fellowship in Surgical Pathology in June of 2012.
On November 26, 2012, the Department will host the Fall 2012 Emma Sadler Moss Lecturer. This year’s invited speaker is **Gene Siegal, M.D.** This lectureship has been a recurring event for the Department of Pathology, whereby recognized national and international leaders in pathology are invited to LSU to address the second year medical students during their pathology course. **Gene Siegal, M.D.,** is the Robert W. Mowry Endowed Professor of Pathology and Director of the Division of Anatomic Pathology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and Executive Vice-Chair of Pathology in the UAB Health System.

**ABOVE:** Gene P. Siegal, MD

Dr. Siegal is an experimental and diagnostic musculoskeletal pathologist whose research interest for over three decades has been focused in Cancer Biology. His work is currently extramurally funded by the NIH, DOD, and private philanthropic agencies and foundations. In his research endeavors, he has specifically been interested in studying tumor matrix interactions during angiogenesis, tumor invasion and metastasis. Efforts by his group have been directed towards developing new reliable in vitro model systems for studying the effect of nutritional and other factors on cancer progression in humans. In separate studies he and his associates have been exploring how carbohydrate associated cell surface molecules modulate tumor cell interactions with the environment surrounding cancer cells.

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**Lab Week 2012**

**National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (Lab Week)** is an annual celebration of the medical laboratory professionals and pathologists who play a vital role in every aspect of health care. As a key member of a health care team, the clinical laboratory science professional has played an increasingly vital role in the diagnosis and prevention of disease. There are approximately 300,000 practitioners of clinical laboratory science in the U.S.

This year’s Lab Week celebration was held from April 23rd through April 28th and honored our 140 hardworking medical laboratory professionals. Thank you again for your dedication and hard work. Keep up the good work!
Amy Collinsworth, M.D. will be honored on Thursday June 21st as she graduates from the residency program. Dr. Collinsworth will be starting a two-year fellowship in Liver and Gastrointestinal Pathology on July 1st at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Best wishes for continued success, Dr. Collinsworth.

Both of the program's current 3rd year residents have been offered and have accepted fellowship positions for July 2013. Current Chief Resident, Matt Safley, D.O., will enter a Breast Pathology fellowship at the University of Florida in Jacksonville and Mike Leroy, M.D., will start a Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis. Congratulations!

The Department and Program would like to thank senior medical student, Jordan Roberts for a job well-done as the inaugural President of the LSU medical student interest group, S.I.P.S. (Students Interested in the Pathology Specialties). Under his leadership, as well as the leadership of 3rd year resident, Matt Safley, D.O., the interest group hosted two informational sessions regarding pathology as a profession.

Second year resident, Bradley Cheek, M.D. was chosen as the new S.I.P.S. resident liaison and sophomore medical student, Cameron Simmons, was elected the new President. Please welcome them and aim to support their ideas for expanding the group over the coming year.

First year resident, Caroline Alquist, M.D., Ph.D., had an article entitled “A 35 Year Old Immunocompromised Man with Cough of 3 weeks Duration” published as clinical case of the month in the Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society. In addition, she also had a second paper accepted in the same journal entitled “Bilateral Globus Pallidus Lesions”. Finally, a third paper on Primary Clear Cell Adenocarcinoma was presented as an oral presentation at the Southern Regional Meeting for American Federation for Medical Research. Congratulations Dr. Alquist!

The Residency Program would like to welcome its three new residents, set to start their first year in July 2012:

Harry Porterfield, DO
Supriya Donthamsetti, DO
Christin Tsao, MD
Faculty Publications


ABOVE: From Left to Right (1st Row): Robin McGoey, MD, James M. Barbeau, MD, Richard S. Vander Heide, MD, PHD (Department Chairman), William P. Newman, MD, Leo Pei, MD, Fred Brazda, MD (2nd Row): Francis Avery Ragan, PHD, Ronald Carr, DDS, Thomas Weilbaecher, MD, Grace Athas, PHD, Bernardo Ruiz, MD, PHD, Tracy Dewenter, MD, Richard Tracy, MD

Staff:
Fred Lutz, Business Manager  
Kathy Fisher, Assistant Business Manager  
Tara O’Neil Rodrigue, Assistant to the Chair  
Leslie Davis, Residency Coordinator  
Deborah Seymour, Administrative Coordinator  
Ann Folse, Coordinator of Student Teaching Programs

To make a contribution to the Department of Pathology, please contact: Fred Lutz, LSU Health Sciences Center, 1901 Perdido, WE’RE ON THE WEB: www.medschool.lsuhs.edu/pathology/