Welcome

We wish to welcome Dorothy Bere as a contract staff member in the UWO office. Dorothy is involved with Dr. Garcia's Vice Dean of Education schedule and meetings, working in tandem with Dr. Garcia's assistant at LHSC.

Congratulation

Congratulations go out to Tara and Francisco Garcia on the birth of their daughter Aurora Selena Garcia. Aurora was born on February 14th and weighed 8lbs 2oz. Proud grandparents are Drs. Bertha and Carlos Garcia. Also congratulations to Dr. Harkiran Kaur and her husband on the birth of their son Ekam on April 9, weighing 7lbs. 1.2oz.

Residency Program Updates

This year we matched our 2 Anatomical Pathology and 1 Neuropathology positions with applicants from CaRMS. The following residents will be joining us July 1: Drs. Rebekah Jacques and Cady Pocrnich in Anatomical Pathology, Dr. Sumit Das in Neuropathology as well as Dr. Fahd Al Sufiani, an ISR applicant.

Graduate Student Updates

Research Based Graduate Programs:
We wish to welcome Rokhsana Mortuza who will begin her MSc-part-time (supervisor Dr. S. Chakrabarti).

Course and Practicum Based MSc Graduate Program (Pathologists’ Assistant):
The NAACLS accreditation submission was submitted in March and we have been given “Serious Applicant” status for our initial accreditation. This means that our current students will be eligible to sit the NAACLS exam this year.

Our 2nd year students are preparing for their final program requirements. The PA students present their research projects on April 29 & 30:

Erin Moody, Nazia Panjwani and Sabrina Tung presented their Projects at Noon Rounds on April 29, 2009 and Dale McKenzie presented at Autopsy Rounds on April 30th.

On May 4th the students will begin their two month Community Hospital Rotations at the following hospitals: Erin Moody – Guelph, Nazia Panjwani – Kitchener, Dale McKenzie – Windsor, Sabrina Tung – LHSC-UH

Our 1st year students are just finishing up the course based portion of their program they will begin the clinical portion of their program on May 1st, they are; Rebekah Carter, Farhana Hargji, Christina Yang, William Tsui

Pathology Research Day

Please mark your calendars for the Annual Pathology Research Day which will be held on Friday May 8, 2009 in auditorium B at LHSC-UH. Programs will be available soon.

Awards

Drs. Joan Knoll and Peter Rogan have received the Stiller Center Prize and Ontario Genomics Precommercialization Investment for single copy probe technology development. This was awarded at the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, April 2, 2009.

Congratulations to Dr. Jack Bend, Pathology, and Dr. Michael Strong, Clinical Neurological Sciences, who have been awarded 2009 Distinguished University Professorships. The Distinguished University Professorship is Western/Es highest recognition for a faculty member.
Dr. Subrata Chakrabarti has received renewal funding for his CIHR research entitled “Oncofetal fibronectin in diabetic heart disease.

Dr. Jack Bend (PI) has been awarded a grant for his research entitled “Baseline biomonitoring studies and a survey of child-youth health as prerequisites to epidemiological studies to assess the health rise of the Attawiniskat First Nation and Walpole Island First Nation communities to environmental contaminants”. Funding from the Assembly of First Nations-Health Canada National First Nations Environmental Contaminants Program.

Dr. Zia Khan has been awarded support from Schulich’s 2009 Gap competition. Funding is for 1 year.

Chiu J, Khan ZA, Fanhangkhoee, H, Chakrabarti, S
Curcumin prevents diabetes-associated abnormalities in the kidneys by inhibiting p300 and nuclear factor-kappB. Nutrition 2009 mar 4 (epub ahead of print)

Elzagallaai, A.A., Knowles, S.P., Rieder, M.J., Bend, J.R., Shear, N.H. and Koren, G.


George, B, Chen, S, Chaudhary, V, Gonder, J, Chakrabarti, S

Kish, SJ, Fitzmaurice, PS, Boileau, I, Schmunk, GA, Ang, LC, Furukawa, Y, Chang, LJ, Wickham, DJ, Sherwin, A, Tong, J

Kirstein, JM, Graham, KC, MacKenzie, LT, Johnston, DE, Martin, LJ, Tuck, AB, MacDonald, IC, Chambers, AF

Martel, J-PA, McLean, CA, Rankin, RN

Mirsattari, SM, Steven, DA, Keith, J, Hammond, RR
Pathophysiological implications of focal cortical dysplasia of end folium for hippocampal sclerosis. Epilepsy 2009 Mar 4 (epub ahead of print)


Zheng, X., Vladau, C, Zhang, X, Suzuki, M, Ichim, TE, Zhang, ZX, Li, M, Carrier, E, Garcia, B, Jevnikar, AM., Min, WP
A novel in vivo siRNA delivery system specifically targeting dendritic cells and silencing CD40 genes for immunomodulation. Blood Jan 22 (epub ahead of print)

Miscellaneous

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Jeremy Parfitt has taken on the role of Principle Investigator for the LHSC centre of the Ontario Tumour Bank.

The E.M. lab had a new digital camera system installed in March. The computer-based system improves image handling that expands and facilitates the documentation of cases by E.M. Through a link with the hospital computer network, images are immediately available for viewing by the pathologists on their monitors. The new camera system eliminates reliance on costly, increasingly scarce photographic materials and reduces the generation of chemical waste.

A sincere thank you goes out to Dr. M. Daria Haust, Professor Emeritus, for her recent generous donation of medical textbooks which will be a valuable addition to our Resident library.

Dr. M. Daria Haust has been reappointed as Professor to the Adjunct (group 1) academic staff, Department of Pathology & Molecular Medicine, Queen’s University, for the 2009/2010 year. She has held this appointment since 1995.

In 2007 an “M. Daria Haust Research Award” for a female academician (less than 10th year of appointment) was established by the Canadian Society of Atherosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology. At their annual meeting this award was presented for the first time to Professor Marie-Claude Vohl of Laval University.

Abstracts, Posters and Presentations

Stage-specific changes in gene expression during early breast cancer progression as modeled by the 21T series cell lines. Margaret P. Moffat Research Day, University of Western Ontario, March 26, 2009.

Xu, J., Souter, LH, Chambers, AF, Rodenhiser, DI, Tuck AB

Remember to keep the good news items coming!

Gail Heslinga
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