

CSDPLMAA

Cedars-Sinai Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Alumni Association

Inside this issue:

- **Welcome from the Chairman**
- **Alumni Activities**
- **Continuing Education Opportunities**
- **Department Update**
- **New Faculty**
- **Outreach Services**
- **...and more**



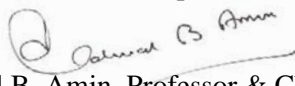
June 7, 2009 - Graduation Day at Mountain Gate Country Club, Los Angeles, CA. Faculty, house staff, alumni and significant others celebrate the graduating class

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Alumnus,

It was wonderful to meet many of you at the Graduation Dinner/Alumni Reunion in June. The excitement generated by you that evening was proof our wish to maintain a continuing connection with all alumni is valid and shared. The launch of this eNewsletter is part of our plan to continue that connection; another is to offer both online and in person practice-enhancing opportunities. In this issue, you will read the latest information on the Department and Faculty and be introduced to our newest House staff and Alumni. You will also see there are immediate opportunities for your participation with us, such as utilizing PathXchange® and by saving the date to attend our Third Annual "What's New In Pathology" Symposia in Spring, 2010. I wish you a warm welcome back to the department and look forward to seeing you online and in person, very soon.


Mahul B. Amin, Professor & Chairman

ANNUAL GRADUATION DINNER AND ALUMNI REUNION

The 2009 annual graduation dinner included a celebration of the graduating house staff as well as an alumni reunion which launched our rejuvenated Alumni Association.

Faculty receiving awards at the Dinner included Dan Luthringer, MD who the house staff voted the "Golden Apple" Award for his teaching excellence and Steve Nichols who received a special award for his long years of service as a resident advocate. Our Twenty-five year honorees were Margie Morgan, PhD, introduced with a biographical slide show by Stephen Vamvakas, MD, PhD, Vice-Chair for Clinical Pathology, and Stephen Geller, MD, similarly introduced by Mahul Amin, MD, Department Chair.



CONNECT WITH US

ONLINE:

PathXchange®

In addition to serving as a platform to connect pathologists all over the world, PathXchange® also serves as an educational tool for the community – to teach and help users stay up to date with current pathology news and test their current knowledge. It is useful to all types of pathologists – from medical students, to residents to industry leaders. You can sign up by visiting www.PathXchange.org. Our department has contracted with PathXchange® to develop a special Cedars-Sinai section allowing us to disseminate interesting cases as well as teaching/learning material. *More to follow in future issues.*

IN PERSON - SAVE THE DATE:

**Third Annual What's New in
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Symposium
Directors Alberto Marchevsky, M.D. and Ellen Klapper, M.D.
Friday, April 30 – Saturday, May 1, 2010
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Harvey Morse Auditorium**

Topics to be covered include "Hospital Acquired Infections," "Genetic Diagnoses," "What's New in Gynecologic Tumors" "Immune Cholestatic Disorders of the Liver" "Handling Stage Fright in Urologic

Malignancies” along with many more lectures and panel discussions. More information to follow in the Spring eNewsletter, including discounted rate information for alumni.

THROUGH OUTREACH SERVICES:

Cedars-Sinai Laboratory Services offers numerous consultation services for all anatomic pathology subspecialties, including prostate pathology, renal pathology, dermatopathology, gastrointestinal and liver pathology, hematopathology and molecular pathology. We receive consultation requests from across the country and throughout the world and welcome your requests. Check out our webpage: <http://www.cedars-sinai.edu/5395.html> and when looking to request specific information, please contact Julius Dulay, dulayj@cshs.org letting him know you are an alumni.

MEET OUR NEWEST ALUMNI

RESIDENCY GRADUATES:

Samantha Greene, DO, is taking a year leave to start her family followed by a Fellowship in Forensics Pathology in Miami, FL.

Marissa Li, MD, is continuing on at Cedars-Sinai as our Transfusion Medicine Fellow.

Hung Luu, MD is now a Hematopathology Fellow at City of Hope Medical Center, Duarte, CA.

Cristina Ramirez, MD is a Surgical Oncology Fellow at Sloan-Kettering Memorial Cancer Center, New York, NY.

Marina Sandoval, MD is a Surgical Pathology Fellow at LAC+USC Medical Center; next year she will be a Dermatopathology Fellow at Wake Forest University, Wake Forest, NC.

Danielle Westfall, MD is continuing on at Cedars-Sinai as our Genitourinary Pathology Fellow.

Anna Wong, MD, the Leo Rigler Awardee as outstanding house staff member and the Nathan Friedman Awardee for Research, is now a Hematopathology Fellow at UCLA.



FELLOWSHIP GRADUATES:

Jeff Brown, MD, who also received a Nathan Friedman Award For Research, completed his Genitourinary Pathology Fellowship and is on staff at Avero Diagnostics Lab, Houston, TX.

Lauren Chiles, MD, completed her Surgical Pathology Fellowship and is in private practice in Knoxville, TN.

Gretchen Galliano, MD, Surgical Pathology Fellow and Sports Spectacular Fellowship Awardee, is a Cytopathology Fellow at UCLA.

Mary Levy, DO, Gastrointestinal Pathology Fellow, is on staff at John C. Lincoln Hospital, Phoenix, AZ.

Mark Samonte, MD, Hematopathology Fellow, is in private practice in Los Angeles.

Veena Singh, MD, Molecular Genetics Pathology, is in private practice in San Diego.

Praveen Sivakumaran, MD, Transfusion Medicine, is in Internal Medicine, Kaiser Hospitals, Los Angeles.

Aine Yung, MD, is a staff Hematopathologist at Genoptiks Labs, Carlsbad, CA.

MEET OUR NEW RESIDENTS



Chelsea Hayes, MD
St. George's University School of
Medicine, Grenada
PGY-1



Michael Schmidt, DO
Kansas City University of Medicine
and Biosciences
PGY - 1



Hani Hojjati, MD
Shahid Beheshti University of Medical
Sciences, Tehran.
PGY - 1



Hedyeh Shafi, MD
Georgetown University School of
Medicine
PGY - 1



Jamie Koo, MD
UT Southwestern Medical School, Dallas
PGY - 1



Nan Zhang, MD, PhD
Beijing Medical University
PGY - 1

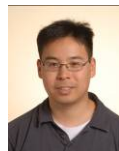


Devki Patel, MD
UT Southwestern Medical School at
Dallas
PGY - 1

MEET OUR NEW FELLOWS



Owen Chan, MD, PhD Gastrointestinal
Pathology Fellow
John A. Burns School of Medicine,
University of Hawaii



Brian Kwok, MD, Hematopathology
Fellow
Keck School of Medicine of the
University of Southern California



Vivekanand Datta, MD, PhD Molecular
Genetics Pathology Fellow
GSVM Medical College, Kanpur, India



Marissa Li, MD Transfusion Medicine
Fellow, UCLA David Geffen School of
Medicine



Guy diSibio, MD, PhD Hematopathology
Fellow, UCLA David Geffen School of
Medicine



Dan Phan, MD, PhD Surgical
Pathology Fellow, Chief Administrative
Fellow, University of Arkansas for
Medical Sciences



Eric Himmelfarb, MD, MS Surgical
Pathology Fellow, Vanderbilt University
School of Medicine



Danielle Westfall, MD Genitourinary
Fellow
The Ohio State University College of
Medicine

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

In 2009, the department continued to grow - there are now forty-three faculty members, twenty-eight house staff and several international visiting fellows. Our department has been specialized for almost a decade and we now have expertise in every discipline of pathology. For the latest information, check out our website: <http://www.cedars-sinai.edu/5324.html>.

During the 2008-2009 academic year, the faculty and house staff excelled in the number of publications: 136 peer reviewed articles; 69 scientific meeting platform and poster presentations; 23 book chapters and 1 published book. Also, faculty, house staff and staff received multiple awards and honors, including:

- [Kenneth E. Bernstein, MD, Vice-Chair, Experimental Pathology](#) was elected to membership in the Association of American Physicians
- [Richard B. Mertens, MD, PhD](#) received the CAP Award for Service
- [Gretchen Galliano, MD, '08 Surgical Pathology Fellow](#)– received a Sports Spectacular Fellowship, one of five awardees hospital-wide
- [Anna Wong, M.D., '08 Chief Resident](#), was awarded both the Leo Rigler and Nathan Friedman Awards for Research
- [Marique Jose-Isip](#), Administrative Services Associate and [Marshall S. Kulkin](#), Senior Histologist, received the Medical Center's highest honor, The President's Award
- [Rhoda Mae Ocuillo, School of Clinical Laboratory Sciences](#), ranked first in the nation on her board exam while [Patrice Lewis](#) and [Jesse Leu](#) were awarded the National Student Honor Award from the American Society of Clinical Pathologists
- [Cristina Aguilar MD](#) was selected as a Global Outreach Consultant for the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP), 2009. She was also one of two residents awarded a grant to attend the "Day on the Hill" in Washington, DC, through the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). Attendees met with their Representatives on Capitol Hill to express their concerns and views about critical issues in the lab profession.



MEET OUR NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

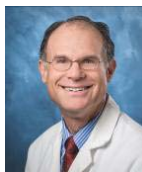


Catherin I. Barry, DO, Dermatopathology and Bone/Soft Tissue Pathology

Date on staff: July 2008

Specialty: Dermatopathology

Research focus: Dermatopathology



Kenneth E. Bernstein, MD, Director, Experimental Pathology

Date on staff: April 2008

Specialty: Renal and cardiovascular disease

Research focus: Renin-angiotensin system



Justin M. Cole, MD, PhD, Molecular Pathology and Hematopathology

Date on staff: August 2009

Specialty: Hematopathology and molecular pathology

Research focus: Molecular and flow cytometric characterization of hematolymphoid neoplasms



Sebastien Fuchs, MD, PhD, Experimental Pathology, Biomedical Sciences

Date on staff: April 2008

Specialty: Research

Research focus: Pulmonary Fibrosis



Mark Haas, MD, PhD, Renal Pathology

Date on staff: July 2009

Specialty: Renal Pathology

Research focus: Glomular diseases, renal transplant pathology



Jerry W. Hussong DDS, MD, Director, Operations; Director of Hematopathology

Date on staff: October 2008

Specialty: Hematopathology

Research focus: leukemias and lymphomas



Bharat N. Nathwani, MD, Hematopathology

Date on staff: February 2009

Specialty: Lymphoma pathology

Research focus: Lymphoma: clinicopathologic and biologic correlations



Hossein Sadrzadeh, PhD, Scientific Director Core Laboratory & Director of Clinical Chemistry

Date on staff: October 2009

Specialty: Clinical Chemistry

Research focus: Clinical Chemistry



Elizabeth Spiteri, PhD Associate Scientific Director, Cytogenetics; Scientific Director of Molecular Genetics

Date on staff: December 2008

Specialty: Cytogenetics and molecular genetics

Research focus: Molecular markers and cytogenetic abnormalities in leukemia



Stephen (Eleftherios) C. Vamvakas, MD, PhD, MPH, Director, Clinical Pathology, Co-Director, Residency Program

Date on staff: July 2008

Specialty: Transfusion medicine and blood banking

Research focus: Transfusion-related immunomodulation; epidemiology of blood transfusion and transfusion-related adverse events; applications of meta-analysis to pathology practice



Mariza De Peralta-Venturina, MD, Surgical Pathology and Cytopathology
Date on staff: April 2009
Specialty: GU Pathology, cytopathology
Research focus: Renal and bladder cancer



Jing Zhai, MD, PhD, Cytopathology; Gastrointestinal Pathology; Gynecologic Pathology
Date on staff: June 2008
Specialty: Cytopathology
Research focus: Cytopathologic lesions of the gastrointestinal tract and breast

FACULTY MOVING ON



Yvette I. Youssef, MD, Emeritus
Dates on staff: 1985 - 2008
Specialty: Microbiology

Dr. Youssef served Cedars-Sinai for almost thirty years since the time she was a resident in our department. She helped guide our outreach program for many years and was instrumental in reducing hospital-acquired infections. She will now have time to enjoy her new grandchild.

We hope you have enjoyed this introductory eNewsletter and will join us in our very exciting work-in-progress: re-activating our alumni organization. Submitting information, professional and personal, about your activities for these pages is encouraged. Is there a less wieldy name than CSDPLMAA? Tell us!



Stephen A. Geller, MD
geller@cshs.org
 Editor & Chair, CSDPLMAA

CSDPLMAA Committee Members:

- Stephen A. Geller*
- Melissa E. Kahn*
- Alberto M. Marchevsky*
- Randa Alsabeh*
- Premi Thomas*
- Najeeb Alshak*
- Veronica Rausei-Mills*

******To unsubscribe to this eNewsletter, click reply and note "unsubscribe" in the 'subject' line******