Emory Pathologists Win Elections and Accolades (see Comment)

November was a blue-ribbon month for Emory Pathology, with several members of our Department earning major awards or new leadership posts in national professional organizations. Among the highlights: Professor George Birdsong, M.D., received the 2013 Papanicolaou Award, the highest honor given by the American Society of Cytopathology (ASC) for meritorious contributions to the field. Dr. Birdsong, our Chief of Anatomic Pathology at Grady Hospital, helped establish the original 2001 Bethesda classification system for assessing pap-smears, served on the ASC national Executive Board in 1999-2007, and was ASC President in 2005-06. His Grady colleague, Professor David Koch, Ph.D., was elected to lead the American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC) by serving as its President-Elect in 2014, President in 2015, and Past-President in 2016. The AACC is the premier organization of clinical chemists, with 8,000 members worldwide. Dr. Koch, who is Director of Clinical Chemistry at Grady Hospital and a Fellow of the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry, served on the AACC’s Board of Directors from 2010 until 2012. And Professor Sharon Weiss, M.D., has been elected President of the American Board of Pathology (ABP), the organization that sets national standards and certifies individual physicians to practice our specialty. Her yearlong term begins on January 1. A renowned diagnostician and co-author of the leading textbook on soft tissue tumors, Dr. Weiss has been a member of the ABP Board since 2005. She is also the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at the Emory School of Medicine.

Medical Students are Interested in Pathology (see Comment)

What started as a grassroots movement has now hit the Big Time: With the formal approval of its charter in September, Students Interested in Pathology (SIP) has officially been designated as a permanent student organization of the Emory School of Medicine. Since its launch in 2012 by interested medical students -- with guidance, encouragement, and occasional dinners from Professor Jeannette Guarner, M.D. -- the group has been generating buzz and strong turnouts with its signature events, which have so far included Board-review sessions, a seminar on forensics by Professor Randy Hanzlick, M.D., and a panel discussion on Pathology careers featuring some of our illustrious residents and fellows. This fall, medical students Justin Yoo, Mia DeSimone, and Vanessa Cousins took the lead in winning SIP’s official recognition by the School. The group’s most recent gathering drew 10 interested Emory students, auguring a bright future ahead for the SIP and for our specialty.

Comment: For more accomplishments by our faculty and trainees, see pages 2 and 3.
Great teaching is its own reward. But that didn’t stop our residents from singling out three outstanding educators for the 2012-13 academic year: Assistant Professor Kelly Magliocca, D.D.S, M.P.H., and Associate Professor Andrew Young, M.D., Ph.D., earned the Golden Apple teaching awards in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, respectively, while Associate Professor and new Associate Residency Director Marina Mosunjac, M.D., took home the coveted Annalee Boyette Award for her inspiring contributions to our residency program.

Gabriela Bedolla, who hails from Texas and Mexico and is a graduate of the UT medical school in San Antonio, first ventured north to the chillier climes of Ohio in 2000, for a Pathology residency at the University of Cincinnati. There she completed her AP/CP training, including a year as Chief Resident and a final year as Fellow/Instructor in Surgical Pathology before being recruited into a large private pathology group in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she spent seven busy years honing her skills in general surgical pathology. It might have been those icy winds, or her growing interest in GI pathology, that led Dr Bedolla to weigh anchor last January and head southward, planning on a yearlong GI Instructorship in our Department before returning to the Lone Star state. But she’s been contributing so much to our clinical services, and turned out to be such a delightful colleague and gifted diagnostician, that we’ve spent the past year enticing her to stay on. Luckily for us, she’s accepted, and will join our regular faculty on January 1 as an Assistant Professor at EUH-Midtown and on the GI subspecialty service. That’s one more reason to feel joyful as we start the New Year!

Professor Dan Brat, M.D., Ph.D., has been elected to membership in the American Society for Clinical Investigation, a notoriously exclusive club of physician-investigators known colloquially as the “Young Turks”. He will be formally inducted into the Society at its April 2014 meeting in Chicago. Dr Brat is our Chief of Neuropathology, Vice Chair for Translational Programs, and Residency Co-Director, as well as a Distinguished Cancer Scientist of the Georgia Research Alliance.

Meanwhile, our residents are taking over the world, too: Tesha Guillory, M.D. (PGY-2) has been elected by her peers to serve as Secretary of the nationwide Resident Forum of the College of American Pathologists for 2014. On December 8, Brian Willis, M.D. (PGY-2) chaired a session on soft-tissue tumors at the biannual meeting of the California Tumor Registry in San Francisco. And Annie Morrison, M.D. (PGY-3) won the “Duel in Dermatopathology” at the October annual meeting of the American Society for Dermatopathology for her lecture on cutaneous acanthamoebiasis. That’s the same duel that Lauren Stuart, M.D., M.B.A. (now PGY-3) won last year, making Emory the only repeat winner of this event since the dueling began 14 years ago.

To contribute to the next newsletter, send an email to Donna Martin (dmart06@emory.edu)
**CASE REPORTS**

Four more Pathology faculty have earned places this year in the Emory School of Medicine’s two honor societies that recognize high-impact scholarship. At a reception hosted by Dean Chris Larsen and Associate Dean for Research Ray Dingledine on October 8, three pathologists were among 16 new inductees to the “Millipub Club”, which honors the authors of blockbuster scientific papers that have been cited at least 1,000 times. The honorees were Professor and Vice Chair **Volkan Adsay, M.D.**, for his co-authorship of a 2007 paper identifying pancreatic cancer stem cells (Li et al., Cancer Res 67:1030); Professor **Fred Sanfilippo, M.D., Ph.D.**, who co-authored the original Banff criteria for diagnosing renal allograft rejection (Solez et al., Kidney International 44:411, 1993); and Professor and Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar **Guido Silvestri, M.D.**, as a co-author of Nature Medicine 12:1365, 2006, highlighting the role of gut microbial translocation in HIV disease. Also in the limelight was Assistant Professor **Mirko Paiardini, Ph.D.**, who became the fourth pathologist to qualify for the “Emory 1%” when his NIH RO1 grant application on HIV immunopathogenesis scored in the top percentile on peer review on its first submission.

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**Interesting Links**

**Pathologists in the News**

*Colleen Kraft / Hunter Johnson*

**NBC News**

Poop Pills for curing dangerous infections

Not-Too-Glamorous Fecal Transplants

*Andy Neish, Rheinhalt Jones, Dave Lambeth*

**EurekAlert!**

*Carlos Moreno*

**Atlanta Journal Constitution**

*Lee Cooper / David Gutman*

**Image Analysis Database**
- [http://cancer.digitalslidearchive.net](http://cancer.digitalslidearchive.net)

Note: Does not work in all browsers. Tested successfully with Windows 7 with Internet Explorer, version10.

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**Reminder**

Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Holiday Reception

Wednesday, December 18th

5—8pm

Michael C. Carlos Museum

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Photos from the Winship 5K Race, October, 2013

A sea of green at the Winship 5K. Individual images will be available on Blackboard in the Pathology Departmental Site, Photo Repository.

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