

# PATHOLOGIST

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## Research Highlights

*Edited by David P. Hajjar, PhD*



**Massimo, Loda, MD**  
*David D. Thompson Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine; Pathologist-in-Chief, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center*

### Welcome to Our New Chair, Massimo Loda, MD

Dr. Massimo Loda, an internationally renowned molecular pathologist, is our new Chairman and Pathologist-in-Chief. Dr. Loda was recruited to Weill Cornell Medicine and NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, where he was Chair of the Department of Oncologic Pathology.

An acclaimed physician-scientist with a focus on urologic oncology, Dr. Loda uses biochemical and genomic approaches to investigate the mechanisms by which prostate cancer hijacks cell metabolism to allow tumors to flourish. Unlike healthy cells, prostate tumors rely on – and thus create – fat, or lipids, for energy. Dr. Loda discovered that the molecular pathway responsible for that metabolic activity renders tumor cells vulnerable to targeted treatments, and has identified two such drugs that exploit it with few clinical side effects. Dr. Loda has also identified prostate cancer biomarkers that can predict therapeutic efficacy.

Dr. Loda is a board-certified pathologist and physician-scientist with expertise in genitourinary cancers, particularly prostate cancer. He has published more than 360 scholarly papers in journals, including *Nature* and its specialized publications, *Cell*, *Cancer Cell*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, and *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. Dr. Loda has been consistently funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, the American Cancer Society and other organizations. He is principal investigator of a National Cancer Institute Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) prostate cancer

grant, which has been funded since 2002 and comprises seven academic research institutions in Boston.

He has received several awards and honors, including the Stowell-Orbison Award from the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology, the Donald S. Coffey Physician-Scientist Award from the Prostate Cancer Foundation and the Distinguished Mentor Award from Brigham and Women's Hospital. Dr. Loda was also elected a member of the Association of American Physicians in 2015. He serves on several national advisory boards and NIH study sections and working groups.

Dr. Loda completed his undergraduate studies in 1976 at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, and received his medical degree in 1980 from the University of Milan. In the mid-1980s, Dr. Loda moved to the United States and completed a residency in anatomic pathology at Harvard Medical School, as well as a fellowship in anatomic and molecular pathology at Tufts Medical Center. Dr. Loda was appointed to Harvard Medical School's faculty in 1992, rising through the ranks to become a Professor of Pathology in 2006. He joined the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in 1998, where he in 2016 became Chief of the Division of Translational and Molecular Oncologic Pathology.

Dr. Loda, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, joined Weill Cornell Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in February 2019.

### BIOLOGY OF PROSTATE CANCER

*According to Massimo Loda, MD*

For many years, Dr. Massimo Loda and his research team have studied the links between the regulation of metabolomics and the progression of prostate cancer. Today, metabolomics is defined as the quantitative measurement of the metabolic response to external stimuli or genetic alterations. It can also detect and quantify low-molecular weight metabolites produced by living cells. The metabolites of living cells are seen as the end products of the biological hierarchy, starting with activated genes (genome) and extending over the collection of gene transcripts (transcriptome) and proteins (proteome). Metabolic alterations can occur as a consequence of genetic events. Alternatively, metabolic alterations are primary events in cancer but require genetic alterations in critical pathways for oncogenesis to occur (e.g. isocitrate dehydrogenase mutations). Either way, Professor Loda



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# Research Highlights

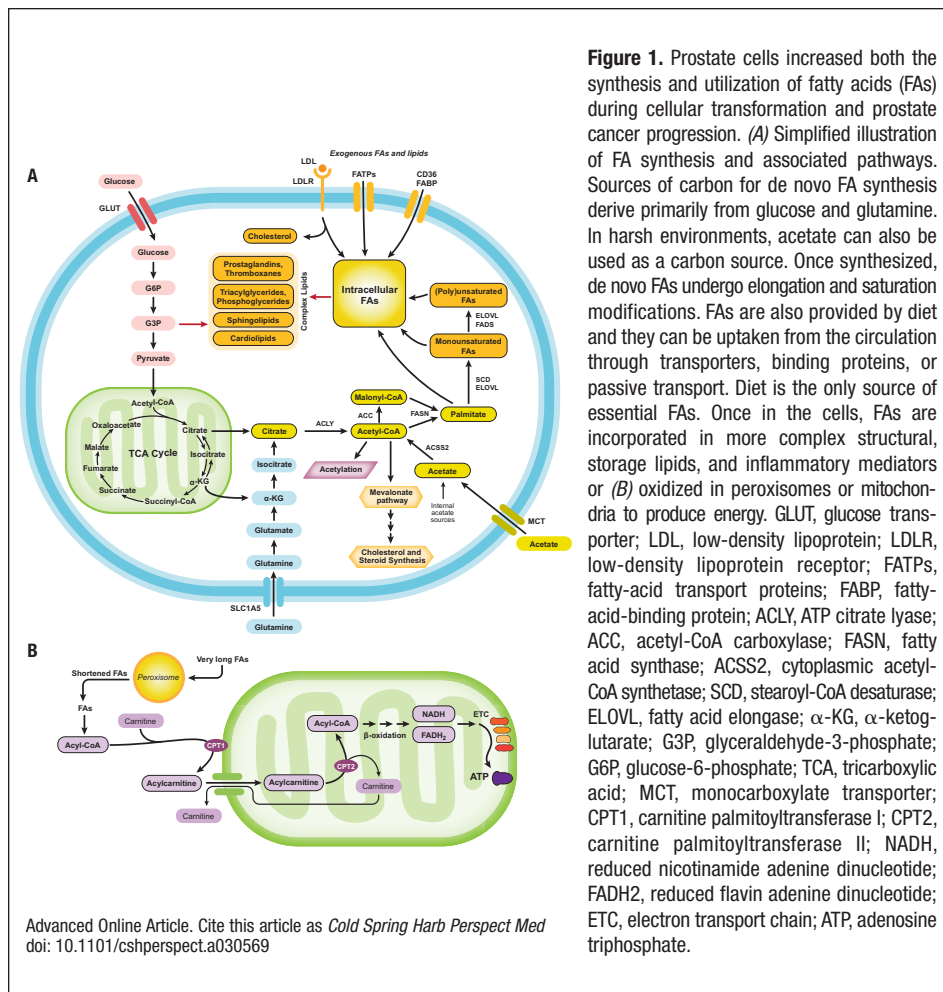
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believes that genetic alterations and altered metabolic pathways go hand in hand in a tumor cell-specific manner. Thus, simultaneous targeting of selected metabolic enzymes and “driving” oncogenes may be a cancer cell-selective therapeutic approach.

Several years ago, he and his colleagues discovered that USP2a binds to and stabilizes fatty acid synthase (FASN) by preventing its degradation. This prompted them to initiate a research program focused on FASN. Having interests in the etiology and pathogenesis of prostate cancer (PCa), his laboratory investigated the expression of FASN in PCa by immunohistochemistry as well as gene expression profiling demonstrating that FASN is over-expressed in aggressive prostate carcinomas. Since it has been reported that FASN expression is highest in androgen-independent bone metastatic disease, they set out to determine whether it confers a growth advantage to PCa. Using genetically engineered human prostate epithelial cells infected with FASN, they established that FASN can act as a PCa. Subsequently, Dr. Loda and his colleagues showed that FASN germline polymorphisms are significantly associated with risk of lethal PCa. Significant interactions of BMI with FASN polymorphisms and FASN tumor expression suggest FASN as a potential link between obesity and poor PCa outcome. Dr. Loda reasons that FASN inhibition could reduce PCa-specific mortality, particularly in overweight men.

Dr. Loda recently expanded the analysis of metabolism in PCa to assess the global metabolic profile by GS/MS in immortalized prostate epithelial cells and transgenic mice, comparing Akt and Myc as the driving oncogenes. The results were then applied to human tumors previously categorized as to the status of these oncogenes. His findings show starkly different metabolic profiles resulting from these oncogenes and signatures that could be applied to human tumors and exploited as imaging tools. He has also shown that inhibition of de novo lipogenesis is the predominant downstream effector of AMPK-mediated inhibition over mTORC1 (EMBO Mol Med, 2014).

Finally, Dr. Loda's laboratory recently showed that the inhibition of fatty acid synthesis arrested the cells at G2/M notwithstanding the presence of abundant fatty acids in the media. Their results suggest that de novo lipogenesis is essential for cell cycle completion. This “lipogenic checkpoint” at



G2/M may be therapeutically exploited for hyper-proliferative diseases such as cancer.

Professor Loda's laboratory at Weill Cornell Medicine has now been established, and he continues to hit major milestones in understanding the pathogenesis of Prostate Cancer.

## Relevant Publications

Abida W, Cyrta J, Heller G, Prandi D, Armenia J, Coleman I, Cieslik M, Benelli M, Robinson D, Van Allen EM, Sboner A, Fedrizzi T, Mosquera JM, Robinson BD, De Sarkar N, Kunju LP, Tomlins S, Wu YM, Nava Rodrigues D, Loda M, Gopalan A, Reuter VE, Pritchard CC, Mateo J, Bianchini D, Miranda S, Carreira S, Rescigno P, Filipenko J, Vinson J, Montgomery RB, Beltran H, Heath EI, Scher HI, Kantoff PW, Taplin ME, Schultz N, deBono JS, Demichellis F, Nelson PS, Rubin MA, Chinnaiyan AM, Sawyers CL. Genomic correlates of clinical outcome in advanced prostate cancer. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 2019; 116:11428-11436. PubMed  
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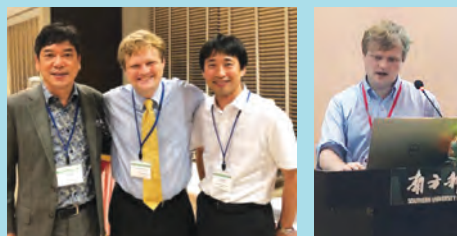




## Our Renowned Pathologists on the Global Stage



▲ **Dr. Rhonda Yantiss** (front-middle) Dr. Yantiss was the guest GI Pathology speaker at the Pathotim 2019 Recent Advances in GI, GU, and Placental Pathology Seminar in Timisoara, Romania.



▲ **Dr. Matthew Greenblatt** (middle-left) after giving the plenary lecture at the Bone Biology Forum of Japan with colleagues Hiroshi Asahara and Ryo Nakamichi, August 2019 and (right) at podium speaking at the annual International Chinese Musculoskeletal Research Society in Shenzhen China, August 2019.



▲ **Dr. Amy Chadburn** (2nd from left) The Great Wall of Xian – members of the Workshop Panel and speakers from the 1st Joint Chinese Society for Hematopathology (CSHP)/SH Workshop (left to right) Drs. Yaso Natkunam (Stanford), Amy Chadburn (Weill-Cornell), Girish Venkataraman (U of Chicago) and Paul Rubinstein (Cook County Hospital, Chicago). Dr. Chadburn was part of the Workshop Panel and lectured on "HIV and HHV8-related Lymphomas" at the 2 day meeting held in Xian, China, October 19-20, 2019. Other members of the department who presented at the meeting included Mihn Mays, Hematopathology Fellow, and Eve Crane, Hematopathology Attending.



▲ **Dr. Yao-Tseng Chen** returned to Taiwan in January to vote in the presidential campaign (with a happy ending)!



▲ **Dr. Genevieve Crane** exploring the Muslim Quarter in Xi'an, China following the first joint workshop between the two countries' hematopathology societies. Xi'an was the starting point for the Silk Road, bringing a mix of cultures and persisting today as a vibrant food and social scene.



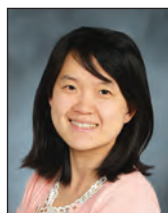
▲ **Dr. Momin Siddiqui** 1. (2nd from left) was a Seminar Faculty and Speaker on Pancreas Cytology, 9th Annual Siriraj-Johns Hopkins, Cytopathology Course, Bangkok, Thailand, July 12th, 2019; 2. (2nd from right) Dr. Siddiqui was a Congress Faculty and Speaker at The 20th International Congress of Cytology, Sydney, Australia, May 5th-9th, 2019; 3. (far right) Dr. Siddiqui was a Seminar Faculty and Speaker at the 2019 Croatian Society of Clinical Cytology and American Society of Cytopathology Meeting, Zagreb, Croatia. September 21, 2019.



## Faculty Focus

by Massimo Loda, MD

### Welcome New Faculty



#### HEMATOPATHOLOGY

**Anna Nam, MD** joined the department as Instructor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine July 2019. Dr. Nam received her Bachelor's Degree from Davidsons College in 2008. While there she excelled as a student, received multiple awards and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She received her medical degree from University of Missouri School of Medicine, where she received clerkship honors in multiple rotations and graduated Alpha Omega Alpha. Dr. Nam took two years off from medical school to serve as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute-NIH Research Scholar under the mentorship of Dr. Jung-Hyun Park. She completed her training in Anatomic Pathology, followed by a one year fellowship in Hematopathology, followed by a Molecular Pathology Fellowship, all with us. During that time, she had the opportunity to spend time in the research laboratory of Dr. Dan Landau where she has excelled. She was awarded the Alumni Counsel Distinguished Housestaff Award for Pathology from Weill Cornell Medicine in 2018 and the American Society of Hematology Abstract Achievement Award in 2018 as well.



#### Sanjay Patel, MD, MHA

joined the Department as Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in July 2019. He received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Rochester in 2007, and then his master's degree of science and public health in 2009; after which, he earned an MD from Saint George's University in the West Indies in 2013. He did his residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at the University of Wisconsin hospital and clinics in Madison, Wisconsin, finishing in 2017. His fellowships were completed at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in 2018 and 2019. Dr. Patel is board-certified in anatomic pathology, clinical pathology, and hematopathology. In the past two years, Dr. Patel has received academic honors and awards including the David Y. Mason Award from the European Association Hematopathology and from the Benjamin Castleman Award from the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology.



#### MOLECULAR AND GENOMIC PATHOLOGY

##### James Solomon, MD, PhD

joined the Department as Assistant Professor of Pathology

and Laboratory Medicine in July 2019. Dr. Solomon graduated from the combined MD/PhD Program at the University of California, San Diego. He received his PhD from the Scripps Research Institute in July 2011 and his MD from the University of California, San Diego in June 2013. Subsequently, he completed residency training in both Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at the University of California, San Diego. This was followed by an Oncologic Pathology Fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center where he is now currently completing a Molecular Pathology Fellowship. During his residency, he received the Saltstein Award for patient-oriented service in 2015 and has been editor of the monthly "Molecular Pathology" column in CAP today since 2014.



##### Priya Velu, MD, PhD

joined the Department as Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in August 2019. She received her bachelor of arts degree in biophysics from The Johns Hopkins University in 2005, and then received her MD, PhD in neuroscience from the University of California, San Diego in 2014. After which, she moved to the University of Pennsylvania where she was a resident in Clinical Pathology, and a post-doctoral research fellow in Precision Medicine and Molecular Genetic Pathology in the Department of Pathology at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Velu is certified by the American Board of Pathology in Clinical Pathology and is board eligible in molecular genetic pathology. She spends her time in Molecular and Genomic Pathology, and research. Her work focuses on cancer biology as well as areas of neuroscience.



#### LABORATORY MEDICINE

##### Sabrina Racine-Brzostek MD, PhD

joins the Department as Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in July 2019. Dr. Racine-Brzostek received her bachelor of science degree from Boston College in 2000, and her MD and PhD from Stony Brook University School of Medicine in Stony Brook, New York in 2013. She did an anatomic and clinical pathology residency program at Montefiore Medical Center at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York. Moreover, she became their chief resident and then moved on to the New York Blood Center and Weill Cornell Medicine to serve as a transient transfusion medicine fellow in 2018. Dr. Racine-Brzostek also served as a research assistant with Dr. Anthony Hollenberg at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center from 2000 to 2001. At Stony Brook, she was involved in the medical scientist training program and has given many didactic lectures there as well as here at Weill Cornell.



**Arryn Craney, PhD** joined the Department as Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in August 2019. Dr. Craney is a Clinical Microbiology Fellow in the Department of Pathology

and Microbiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She obtained her BSc at the University of Waterloo, Canada, and her PhD in Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences at McMaster University, Canada, where she investigated metabolism in *Streptomyces coelicolor*. Subsequently, she conducted a highly productive postdoctoral fellowship in the Romesberg Laboratory at The Scripps Research Institute where she focused on antimicrobial resistance. Dr. Craney has continued to expand upon her interest surrounding antimicrobials and antimicrobial resistance throughout her Fellowship and is excited to bring her expertise to bear in New York City, a bastion of antimicrobial resistance.



##### Jenny Yang, MD, PhD

joined the Department as Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in September 2019. She received her bachelor of science degree and master of arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, and MD/PhD from Harvard Medical School. After which, she became a clinical pathology resident and pathology fellow at Columbia University Medical Center. She is board-certified in Clinical Pathology. She was a visiting fellow at Rockefeller University. Dr. Yang has been the recipient of several awards from Harvard Medical School, the NIH, and UCLA; and, she was a Howard Hughes research fellow from 2004-2006.



#### SURGICAL PATHOLOGY

##### Lihui Qin, MD, PhD

joined the Department as Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. She received her medical degree from Beijing Medical University in her native China in 1986. After practicing occupational medicine in China for four years, she immigrated to the United States and matriculated in the PhD program at the Medical University of South Carolina. She received a PhD under the mentorship of Dr. J. Bromberg from that institution in 1994. She subsequently joined Dr. Bromberg at the University of Michigan where she served as a post-doctoral research fellow for five years. She entered the pathology residency training program at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in 1999 and completed her training in anatomic pathology at that institution in 2002. Subsequently, she completed a fellowship in gastrointestinal and transplantation pathology at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in 2003. She is board-certified in anatomical pathology. ■



## Keynotes

by *Domenick J. Falcone, PhD*

► **Dr. Rebecca Baergen** presented three lectures while attending the 34th Annual Conference on Obstetrics, Gynecology, Perinatal Medicine, Neonatology and the Law held in Maui, Hawaii (January, 2018): “Adverse Pregnancy Outcome: Benefits and Limitation of Placental Pathology;” “Maternal and Fetal Vascular Malperfusion;” and Potential Medical and Legal Implications of Inflammatory Lesions of the Placenta.” In March 2018, she attended the Workshop for Society for Pediatric Pathology Annual Spring Meeting in Virginia, where she presented a workshop on: “What the placenta can tell us.” In June, Dr. Baergen traveled to Glasgow, Scotland to attend the International Conference on Stillbirth, SIDS and Baby Survival, where she presented: “Interpreting the Placental Pathology Report.” Also in June, she presented “Placental Pathology and Adverse Outcome – an update” at the American Conference Institute, Philadelphia, PA.

► It has been a busy year for **Dr. Amy Chadburn** as she has given a number of lectures and talks in different areas of the country and the world. January started off with a trip to Florida where she lectured on “Immunodeficiency-related Lymphoproliferative Disorders in the Neoplastic Hematopathology Course.” As it was the last year that Dr. Daniel Knowles, our former chairman, was director of the course, it was a great honor to be able to participate. In March, Dr. Chadburn traveled to Washington, DC, for two meetings. The first was the AIDS Malignancy Consortium International Pathology Meeting where she spoke on “Lymphomas in the Setting of HIV Infection” and “A Practical Approach to Immunohistochemistry.” This meeting was attended by individuals from several countries in Africa and South America. Following this meeting Dr. Chadburn attended the USCAP meeting where she had 3 scientific projects presented as posters with residents and other departmental faculty. In addition, she, with Dr. **Ethel Cesarman** from our department with two other individuals from the University of Miami gave a short course entitled “Viral-Associated Lymphoproliferative Lesions: A Rational Approach.” She was also the moderator for the Hematopathology Night Case Conference Session, which received excellent reviews.

In April, Dr. Chadburn had a case accepted and presented as a podium talk at the European Bone Marrow Working Group meeting held in Frankfurt, Germany. She also presented a case of “Marginal Zone Lymphoma in a Patient with Autoimmune Disease and Iatrogenic Immune Suppression” in conjunction with Dr. John Allan from the Lymphoma Group at WCM at the Lymphoma Research Foundation (LFR) 2019 New York Lymphoma Rounds: Marginal

Zone Edition held in association with the LFR Marginal Zone Lymphoma Scientific Workshop. This case presentation was subsequently published as part of the Fall Edition of the LFR newsletter, Frontline. Early May saw Dr. Chadburn in San Francisco at the ACSR (AIDS Cancer Specimen Resource) Advisory Board Meeting. On her return she lectured on Opportunistic Infections and Lymphomas, to the Arthur Ashe Fellowship Recipients who are individuals that spend a month at WCM learning about AIDS and AIDS treatments. Later in May she was the Grand Rounds speaker at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, FL, where she talked on “Post-Transplant Lymphoproliferative Disorders.”

In June, Dr. Chadburn traveled to Poland where she gave 5 lectures and 2 case seminars at the “Update in Hematopathology” 3-day course held in Warsaw. There she lectured on Immunodeficiency-related Lymphoproliferative Disorders, T-cell Lymphomas, Diffuse Aggressive B-cell Lymphomas, Plasma Cell Neoplasms and the Spleen. In early August, Dr. Chadburn lectured as part of the The Papanicolaou and Frost 2019 Cytopathology Tutorial: A Cornell and Johns Hopkins Partnership in Excellence. The title of her lecture for this meeting was “Challenging Lymphoid Lesions – The Hematopathology Consultation” where she presented on how to optimize small tissues for the diagnosis of lymphoid and myeloid lesions. She then went to Anaheim, CA, for the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) annual meeting where she lectured on “Hemoglobin Electrophoresis,” presenting the work-up of hemoglobinopathy cases seen here at NYP-WCM, partnering with a clinical chemist who discussed the technical aspects of testing. In September, she presented a course with **Dr. Genevieve Crane**, also of the Division of Hematopathology, on “Emerging Trends in Immunosuppression-related Lymphoproliferative Disease, Optimizing Patient Care with Insight from Clinical and Molecular Data.” This course was one of the best attended sessions at the 2019 American Society of Clinical Pathology Annual Meeting.

In addition, Dr. Chadburn served on the expert panel for the The 1st Joint Chinese Society of Hematopathology – Society of Hematopathology Workshop held in Xian, China, where cases were presented in 4 different categories including chronic EBV infections and borderline lymphoproliferations, EBV-related lymphomas, HIV and HHV8-related lymphomas and other infectious agents. In addition, there was a multidisciplinary case presentation session, where Dr. Mihn Mays, hematopathology fellow, with **Drs. Crane, Chadburn, Geyer and Tam**, presented a case of “Extra-nodal NK/T-cell Lymphoma Arising in a Patient with Concurrent Hepatitis B Viremia.” Dr. Chadburn also gave a plenary lecture on “HIV and HHV8-related Lymphomas.” Back in New York, Dr. Chadburn lectured on “Interpreting Bone Marrow Biopsy/Immunopathology Reports” to the nurse practitioners and physician assistants at the 2019 Lymphoma & Myeloma: An International

Congress on Hematologic Malignancies. Most recently she traveled to Lima, Peru, as part of the planning committee for the AMC PEACH Trial where she lectured the Histologic Criteria, Pitfalls, Assessment and Central Review for the trial.

► **Dr. Genevieve Crane** was named to the Pathologist’s 2019 Power List, as a top trailblazer in the field and recognized on the cover of the September 2019 Pathologist Magazine. She was an invited guest faculty at the European Bone Marrow Working Group XIV International Course and Workshop on Bone Marrow Pathology, and lectured as part of the Foundation in Bone Marrow Pathology Course: “Primer for diagnosing cytopenia – practical guidelines for diagnosing myelodysplasia and reactive mimickers,” in Frankfurt, Germany. She also gave two case-based platform presentations as part of this workshop. Dr. Julia Geyer was on the scientific committee for this meeting and also presented as part of the Foundations Course. Dr. Crane’s research on HHV-6 with Dr. Ethel Cesarman resulted in a platform presentation in the “Hot Topics” section of the 11th International conference on HHV-6 & HHV-7, Quebec City, Canada as well as pilot grant to Dr. Crane from the HHV-6 Foundation to continue this work. Dr. Crane and Dr. Chadburn presented a short course at the ASCP Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ in September 2019 titled, “Emerging trends in immunosuppression-related lymphoproliferative disease, optimizing patient care with insight from clinical and molecular data,” which was one of the top 5 most attended courses of the meeting. Dr. Crane together with division colleagues at Weill Cornell had multiple cases accepted for discussion at the 1st Joint Workshop between the Chinese Society for Hematopathology at the Society for Hematopathology in Xi’an, China. A case submitted together with current fellow Dr. Minh Mays was selected for a platform and presented by Dr. Mays at this inaugural event focusing on infectious agent related lymphoproliferative disease. Dr. Crane continues to serve on the editorial board of multiple journals and was recently promoted to Deputy-Editor-in-Chief of PathologyOutlines.com, the largest online pathology resource in the world.

► In this past academic year, **Dr. Annarita Di Lorenzo** was an invited speaker at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, at King’s College of London, Cardiovascular Division, and Neuromed/University of Rome “La Sapienza” where she discussed her recently published work on the role of sphingolipids in a new model of coronary artery atherosclerosis and myocardial infarction. She gave a talk at the FEBS Special Meeting in Sphingolipid Biology and at Hypertension Scientific Session AHA on how specific sphingolipids control blood pressure homeostasis. She was a member of the organizing committee for the 10th International Conference on the Biology, Chemistry and Therapeutics Applications of Nitric Oxide. She also served as an ad hoc reviewer on AHA and NIH study sections. *continued on page 6*



## Keynotes

*continued from page 5*

► **Dr. Yi-Chieh Nancy Du**’s lab focuses on understanding cancer metastasis in order to develop targeted therapies. Dr. Du served as an ad-hoc reviewer on two NIH study sections and a reviewer for Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. Dr. Du was an invited speaker at the 5th NCI-Pancreatic Cancer Symposium, NIH and University of Maryland Greenbaum Comprehensive Cancer Center.

► **Dr. Domenick J. Falcone** received an Award for Excellence in Medical Education for developing a comprehensive set of interactive exercises in organ-based histology, and in recognition of his role as an educator in the *Heath, Illness and Disease* course (June, 2019). Dr. Falcone continues to serve as vice-chair of the Executive Curriculum Committee and co-director of the *Essential Principles of Medicine* (EPOM) course. He serves as basic science theme leader for the medical college curriculum, and leader of the *Injury, Infection, Immunity and Repair* learning unit of the EPOM course. In December 2019, Dr. Falcone traveled to Doha, Qatar to teach the first year students at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar, and review the course progress with the WCM-Qatar faculty.



*Dr. Domenick J. Falcone received an Award for Excellence in Medical Education for developing a comprehensive set of interactive exercises in organ-based histology, and in recognition of his role as an educator in the Heath, Illness and Disease course. (pictured 2nd from left Dean Augustine M.K. Choi and 2nd from right Domenick J. Falcone).*

► **Dr. Paula Ginter** was an invited speaker at the 3rd Annual International Symposium: Improving Breast Cancer Management and Outcomes in Africa, August, 2019, Enugu, Nigeria. The title of her presentation was “Processing of Breast Tissue for Optimal H&E, IHC and RNA/DNA Extraction and Sequencing.”

► In 2019, **Dr. Matthew Greenblatt** was an invited speaker at the University of Michigan Center for Organogenesis (October 2019), the Rolanette and Berdon Lawrence Bone Disease Program of Texas (September 2019), the International Chinese Musculoskeletal Research Society Annual Meeting, and the Bone Biology forum of Japan (August 2019), where he discussed his recent publication on the identity of the periosteal stem cell. He also gave the YueJin lecture in life sciences at Xiamen University (August 2019) and the International Scholars lecture at

Guangzhou University (August 2019) on the same topic. He spoke at the European Calcified Tissue Society annual meeting in Budapest (May 2019) on the discovery of a novel angiogenic factor in bone, SLIT3, and conducted a session at this meeting on how to work with and define skeletal stem cells. He was awarded a 2019 Pershing Square Sohn Prize in Cancer Research to study how different skeletal stem cells may have different capacities to support tumor cells metastasizing to bone.

► **Dr. David Hajjar** was appointed Senior Advisor to the Dean/Provost of Medical Affairs at Cornell as well as Executive Vice Chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at WCM.

► 2019 was a special year for **Dr. Selina Chen-Kiang** and her team. For her innovative and seminal contributions to developing CDK4/6 inhibitor as a cancer therapy, Dr. Chen-Kiang was honored by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at the Crimson Ball in New York City on April 24. Dr. Christina Lee, a



*Dr. Selina Chen-Kiang (left) with her husband and daughter.*

clinical fellow with Dr. Chen-Kiang was selected for the Conquer Cancer Foundation of American Society of Clinical Oncology/Frist Family Endowed Young Investigator Award for her project entitled “Longitudinal Genomic analysis of Tumor-Immune Cell interaction in targeting CDK4 in mantle cell lymphoma” in July, and as a Lymphoma Research Foundation Scholar in LRF Clinical Research Mentoring Program for “Dual CDK4/6 and immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy in indolent non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in November. Nicole Zhao, a summer intern with Dr. Chen-Kiang from Stony Brook University, won an Outstanding Abstract Accomplishment Award from the American Society of Hematology and gave an oral presentation on “Disrupting GRINL1A Association with Cereblon Accelerates IKZF1/3 Degradation and IMiD Killing of MCL Cells by CDK4/6 Inhibition” at the Annual ASH meeting in Orlando Florida (December 7-10). Dr. Chen-Kiang continued to serve on the American Society of Cancer Research Basic Cancer Research Fellowship Review Committee. She was invited to give a keynote lecture on “Longitudinal scRNA-seq analysis of tumor-immune interaction in lymphoma therapy” at the Annual Waldenstrom Roadmap Symposium (April 6-7); speak at the Meyer Cancer Center Overseer’s meeting on May 1 and Retreat on May 3rd, the New York Genome Center on June 4th; at the Hematology-Oncology Grand Rounds at Knight Cancer Center at Oregon Health Science University on June 12th; the 5th International RB Conference in Charleston, South Carolina (September

29-October 2); the Second Annual Cornell Cancer Research Symposium in Ithaca on October 11; the International Lymphoma and Myeloma Congress in New York City on October 25th; and the European Society of Hematology Mantle Cell Lymphoma – Now and Beyond Conference in Rome, Italy (November 8th), and she chaired a session on “Lymphoma—Genetic/Epigenetic Biology: Lymphoma Genomics and Mechanisms of Lymphomagenesis” at the ASH meeting (December 7-10).

► In June 2019, **Dr. Cynthia Magro** along with her colleagues Dr. Mihm and Dr. Crowson gave their annual comprehensive Dermatopathology course for the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) meeting held in Seattle, WA. Dr. Magro gave 15 lectures during the weeklong course discussing diverse topics in the field of Dermatopathology. She continues her work as a section editor for Dermatopathology for the online Journal, The Dermatologist.

► **Dr. Sanjay Patel** has received the following notable awards: David Y. Mason Award from the European Association for Haematopathology (October 2018), Benjamin Castleman Award from the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (March 2019) and the Poster of Distinction from the Departments of Pathology, Brigham and Women’s and Massachusetts General Hospitals/Harvard Medical School (May 2019).

► **Dr. Hanna Rennert** has established a collaboration with the industry to study the genomic profile of renal cyst epithelial cells derived from patients with autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD), using advanced genomic sequencing methodologies including whole exome and whole genome sequencing. She was invited to serve on Vertex Advisory Board for ADPKD in April 2019 in Boston, MA. The purpose of this board was to discuss the genetics of human renal cysts, especially with regard to somatic mutations and how this influences choice of therapeutic approach. Additionally she has validated an ultra-deep next-generation sequencing assay for detecting and monitoring of low-frequency somatic mutations in circulating cell-free tumor DNA in lung cancer patients. A poster describing this work has been presented at the Association for Molecular Pathology annual meeting in November 2018 in San Antonio, TX. She also mentored PYG4 resident, Rebecca Marrero Rolon who had a podium presentation, at ACLPS in June 2019 in Salt Lake City, Utah, entitled “Clinical Utility of a Laboratory Developed BKV Viral Load Assay for Predicting BKV Associated Nephropathy in Kidney Transplant Patients.” Finally, Dr. Rennert has been a member of the AMP Genomic Guideless for Molecular Genetic Pathology fellows Working Group.

► **Dr. David Rickman** was an invited speaker at the Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, (April 2018) and the Roswell



## Keynotes

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Park Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY (February 2019), where he presented “N-Myc Drives Lineage Plasticity in Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer.” He was also an invited speaker at the Vancouver Prostate Centre, University of British Columbia, Canada (July 2018) and the Mainfranken Comprehensive Cancer Center, Graduate School of Life Science, University of Würzburg, Germany, (November 2019) where he presented “N-Myc-Mediated Epigenetic Reprogramming Drives Lineage Plasticity in Advanced Prostate Cancer.”

♦ **Dr. Teresa Sanchez** was invited to MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, as Visiting Professor to speak at the 2018 Pediatrics Research Seminar Series (Department of Pediatrics and Molecular and Cellular Oncology) (March 2018). “*Sphingolipid Signaling in Endothelial Dysfunction.*” She presented her work at the 2018 Gordon Research Conference, Neurobiology of Brain Disorders, Barcelona, Spain (July 2018). The title of her talk was “*Neurovascular Sphingosine-1-Phosphate Signaling in Health and Disease: Mechanistic Insights and Therapeutic Opportunities.*” Dr. Sanchez was invited to speak at the 2019 International Cerebral Vascular Biology Conference, Miami, FL. The title of her talk was “*Endothelial Sphingolipid Signaling in Stroke: Mechanistic Insights and Therapeutic Potential*” (June 2019).

♦ **Dr. Momin Siddiqui** serves as the Chief of Papanicolaou Cytology Laboratory at Weill Cornell Medicine. 2019 has been a busy year for Dr. Siddiqui. He had a number of national and international speaking presentations. He organized and moderated the American Society of Cytopathology Companion Meeting titled “Serous Cavity Fluids: Momentum, Molecules, Markers... and More!!!” at the USCAP 2019 meeting. This was followed by chairing sessions and participating as faculty at the International Congress of Cytology in Sydney, Australia in May 2019. He was an invited speaker at the Siriraj-Johns Hopkins Cytopathology Course in Bangkok, Thailand in July 2019 and the 2019 Croatian Society of Clinical Cytology Meeting in Zagreb, Croatia in September 2019. He also moderated sessions and was an invited faculty at the 2019 American Society of Clinical Pathology Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ and the American Society of Cytopathology Annual Scientific Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT. He organized and directed the Papanicolaou and Frost 2019 Cytopathology Tutorial in New York, NY, in August 2019. Dr. Siddiqui continues to serve on the editorial boards of Cancer Cytopathology, Diagnostic Cytopathology, Acta Cytologica and Cytojournal, and was appointed a

Section Editor for the Journal of American Society of Cytopathology.

♦ **Dr. Lars Westblade** had a number of regional and national speaking engagements including: Laboratory Literature Review, First Coast ID/CM Symposium, February 2nd 2019, in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL; A Clinical Microbiologist's Antimicrobial Susceptibility Journey: not the Path of Least Resistance, Wadsworth Center, March 15th 2019, in Albany, NY; Microbiology for the Masses, Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists Annual Meeting, May 30th 2019; What you Should be Doing and What's to Come, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services CRE Surveillance and Prevention Conference, June 11th 2019, in Plymouth, MI; Integrating Rapid Diagnostics into Antimicrobial Stewardship: Microbiology and Stewardship Synergies, ASM Microbe 2019, June 20th 2019, in San Francisco, CA; Guess the Resistance Mechanism, ASM Microbe 2019, June 21st 2019, in San Francisco, CA; Literature Review, Infectious Diseases Diagnostics, ASM Microbe 2019, June 22nd 2019; San Francisco, CA; Case Studies, SCASM 83rd Annual Meeting, October 26th 2019, in San Diego, CA; and Wonderful World of Staphylococci!, 2019 SEACM Annual Meeting, November 16th 2019, Myrtle Beach, SC.

♦ **Dr. Jenny Yang** is the recipient of the Kellen Junior Faculty Award, selected among her peers across the medical college. This is a notable achievement. Congratulations!

♦ **Dr. Rhonda Yantiss** had a number of national and international speaking engagements, including presentations at Scientific Symposia in Maui, Hawaii, the 30th European Congress of Pathology in Bilbao, Spain, and Diagnostic Pathology Updates of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology in Napa, California. She was a visiting lecturer in the Surgical Pathology for the Practicing Pathologist Course of Harvard Medical School in Fort Myers, Florida, the 6th Princeton Integrated Pathology Symposium in Plainsboro, New Jersey, and the 26th Annual Seminar in Pathology of Allegheny Health Network, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She was the Davey Lecturer for Discovery, Research, Innovation, and Education at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, and presented in two interactive courses at the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology Interactive Center in Palm Springs, California. She directed the Tutorial on Pathology of the GI Tract, Pancreas, and Liver for the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology in San Sebastian, Spain and lectured at the 24th Congress of the Chinese Society of Pathology in Chengdu, China on behalf of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology. Dr. Yantiss continues to serve as an *ad hoc* reviewer for fifteen journals, and is an editorial board member of the *Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*, *Modern Pathology*, *American*

*Journal of Clinical Pathology*, *Seminars in Diagnostic Pathology*, and *The American Journal of Surgical Pathology*. She serves as Associate Editor of *Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*, Senior Associate Editor of *Modern Pathology*, and is an abstract reviewer for the College of American Pathologists. Dr. Yantiss continues to serve on the Education Committee and is Chair of the Abstract Review and Assignment Committee of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology. She also serves on the American Board of Pathology Test Development and Advisory Committee for Anatomic Pathology. Dr. Yantiss is the President-Elect of the Arthur Purdy Stout Society of Surgical Pathologists. ■

## Newly Awarded Pathology Grants

### ♦ NIH Support for Scientific Conferences (R13)

Title: *The 22nd international conference on Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpes virus and related agents*

Principal Investigator: **Ethel Cesarman, MD, PhD**  
Period of Support: 04/09/2019 – 03/31/2020  
Total Direct Costs: \$8,000

### ♦ Inter-campus Seed Grant

Title: *Disruption of protein synthesis by cytoplasmic inclusions of RNA-binding proteins drives cytotoxicity and neurodegeneration in ALS/FTD*

Principal Investigator: **Jessica Tyler, PhD & Slu Sylvia Lee, PhD (Cornell, Ithaca)**  
Period of Support: 07/01/2019 – 06/30/2020  
Total Direct Costs: \$75,000

### ♦ National Institutes of Health Research Grant (R01)

Title: *Role of novel onco-histone mutations in B-cell malignancies*

Principal Investigator: **Ethel Cesarman, MD, PhD & Charles David Allis, PhD (Rockefeller)**  
Period of Support: 08/01/2019 – 07/31/2024  
Total Direct Costs: \$630,707

### ♦ HHV-6 Foundation Grant

Title: *HHV-6 in the lymphoma microenvironment*

Principal Investigators: **Genevieve Crane, MD, PhD & Ethel Cesarman, MD, PhD**  
Period of Support: 08/06/2019 – 08/05/2020  
Total Direct Costs: \$9,309

### ♦ NIH High Priority, Short-Term Project Award (R56)

Title: *Mechanisms underlying integrated stress response induced inflammation*

Principal Investigator: **Jihye Paik, PhD**  
Period of Support: 09/01/2019 – 08/31/2020  
Total Direct Costs: \$250,000

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# Pathology Grants

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## ◆ Pershing Square Sohn Cancer Research Alliance

*Title: Targeting skeletal stem cells to treat tumor-induced osteolysis*

Principal Investigator: **Matthew Greenblatt, MD, PhD**

Period of Support: 07/01/2019-06/30/2022

Total Direct Costs: \$545,454

## ◆ MSK Lymphoma SPORE Career Enhancement Program

*Title: Targeting metabolic vulnerabilities in primary effusion lymphoma using the novel nucleoside analog (6-ETI)*

Principal Investigator: **Jouliana Sadek, PhD (Instructor, Ethel Cesarman Lab)**

Period of Support: 08/01/2019-07/31/2020

Total Direct Costs: \$50,000

## ◆ National Institutes of Health (R01)

*Title: Defining molecular determinants of lineage plasticity as a mechanism of treatment resistance in prostate cancer*

Principal Investigator: **David S. Rickman, PhD**

Period of Support: 08/01/2019-07/31/2024

Total Direct Costs: \$1,443,165

## ◆ National Institutes of Health

*Title: Recipient epidemiology and donor evaluation study IV-pediatric (REDS-IV-P)-domestic hubs- Phase 1*

Principal Investigator: **Melissa Cushing, MD**

Period of Support: 04/01/2019-03/31/2020

Total Direct Costs: \$35,826

## ◆ JumpStart Research Career Development Program

*Title: The stem cell basis of the bifurcation between adipogenic versus osteogenic lineages*

Principal Investigator: **Shawon Debnath, PhD**

(Research Associate, Matthew Greenblatt Lab)

Period of Support: 07/01/2019-06/30/2022

Total Direct Costs: \$300,000

## ◆ The Daedalus Fund for Innovation

*Title: Development and in vitro validation of novel antibody therapeutics for vascular disorders*

Principal Investigator: **Teresa Sanchez, PhD**

Period of Support: 04/01/2019-03/31/2020

Total Direct Costs: \$100,000

## ◆ National Institutes of Health (P01 Subaward)

*Title: The impact of changes in chromatin architecture on cancer phenotypes and tumor progression*

Principal Investigator: **Giorgio Inghirami, MD**

Period of Support: 06/01/2019-05/31/2020

Total Direct Costs: \$121,782

## ◆ US Department of Defense (Subaward)

*Title: Molecular and clinical correlates with prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA)-targeted radionuclide therapy*

Principal Investigator: **Francesca Khani, MD**

Period of Support: 07/01/2019-06/30/2020

Total Direct Costs: \$10,331

## ◆ WCM SPORE Career Enhancement Award

*Title: Prostate cancers with MAPK oncogenic driver mutations: characterizations of a potentially novel and targetable molecular subclass associated with aggressive behavior*

Principal Investigator: **Francesca Khani, MD**

Period of Support: 08/01/2019-07/31/2020

Total Direct Costs: \$50,000

## ◆ National Institutes of Health Research Grant (R01)

*Title: Cooption of the DNA damage response for epigenetic regulation of inflammation*

Principal Investigator: **Steven Josefowicz, PhD**

Period of Support: 12/01/2019-11/30/2024

Total Direct Costs: \$1,250,000

## ◆ National Institutes of Health Research Grant (R01)

*Title: Endothelial sphingolipid synthesis and tissue inflammatory response*

Principal Investigator: **Annarita DiLorenzo, PhD**

Period of Support: 12/10/2019-11/30/2023

Total Direct Costs: \$1,078,000

## ◆ The Medical Centre Insurance Company (MCIC) Vermont

*Title: Enhancing pathology accuracy through artificial intelligence slide review*

Principal Investigator: **Alain Borczuk, MD**

Period of Support: 03/01/2020-12/31/2020

Total Direct Costs: \$20,000

## ◆ Lymphoma Research Foundation Fellowship Grant

*Title: Signaling to chromatin pathways in regulation of germinal center B cell differentiation and lymphoma*

Principal Investigator: **Alexia Martinez De Paz (postdoc in Steven Josefowicz Lab)**

Period of Support: 03/01/2020-02/28/2022

Total Direct Costs: \$105,000 ■

# Congratulations Dr. Rhonda K. Yantiss



## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

**The American Board of Pathology Announces the Appointment of Rhonda K. Yantiss, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College to the Test Development and Advisory Committee for Gastrointestinal, Liver, and Pancreatic pathology.**

TAMPA, Fla., (January, 9, 2020) - The American Board of Pathology (ABPath) is pleased to announce the appointment of Rhonda K. Yantiss to the ABPath's Test Development and Advisory Committee (TDAC) for Gastrointestinal, Liver, and Pancreatic pathology for 2020. The TDACs are responsible for developing and reviewing the ABPath certification exam questions that assess and certify a physician's education, knowledge, experience, and skills in order to provide high quality care in the pathology profession.

To be appointed to a TDAC means a physician is an established subject matter expert in their subspecialty field and is current on the latest advances in the continually evolving field of pathology and patient care. TDAC committee members develop and review examination questions for statistical performance and relevance to current practice. They contribute to the validity of examinations by determining the content and distribution of items on examinations (exam blueprints). The TDACs also advise the ABPath on issues in their subspecialty area of expertise.

"As TDAC members, these physicians play a critical role in the development of the exams and are entrusted with maintaining the integrity of the board-certified designation. The appointment to a TDAC indicates the physician is highly regarded in the field of pathology and exemplifies the utmost standards of care," states Rebecca L. Johnson, MD, CEO of the American Board of Pathology.

**Contact: Bonnie A. Woodworth**, Communications Director, American Board of Pathology  
(813) 724-3707 • bwoodworth@abpath.org • [abpath.org](http://abpath.org)



## Dear Dr. Yantiss,

It is my honor to inform you that you have been selected to receive the 2019-2020 Honorary Fellowship Award presented by the Weill Cornell Medical College Alumni Association. Each year the Alumni Association presents two Honorary Fellowship Awards to individuals who did not receive their MD or PhD degree from the Medical College and who, by their scholarship, dedication and leadership have greatly enhanced and enriched the life of the Medical College, its faculty, and its students.

The award will be presented during Reunion on **Friday, September 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** Again, my congratulations.

Best,  
**Natasha I. Leibel, MD '98**  
President  
WCMC Alumni Association



# Residents' Research Day

Held in the Greenberg Conference Room, April 18, 2019 at Weill Cornell Medicine, the judges for this year's platform presentations were: **Surya Seshan, MD**, Professor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Chief of Renal Pathology; **Wayne Tam, MD, PhD**, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Co-Director of Molecular Hematopathology; **Wei Song, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Director of Clinical Genomics Initiative. Of the 6-oral presentations, the 2-winners were:

## ▼ Dr. William (Sam) Towne (PGY-2, AP/CP).



## ▼ Dr. Matthew Canver (PGY-2, CP-PSTP).

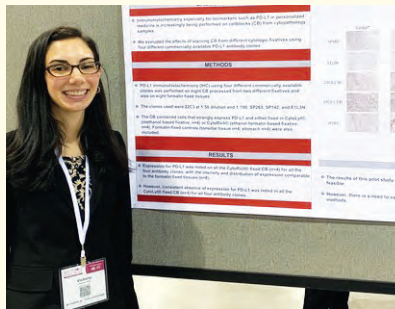


▼ Best scientific poster presentation of 18-posters presented went to **Dr. Miguel Cantu (PGY-4, AP/CP)**.



All winners were awarded with gift certificates. Congratulations to all on your excellent presentations and participation.

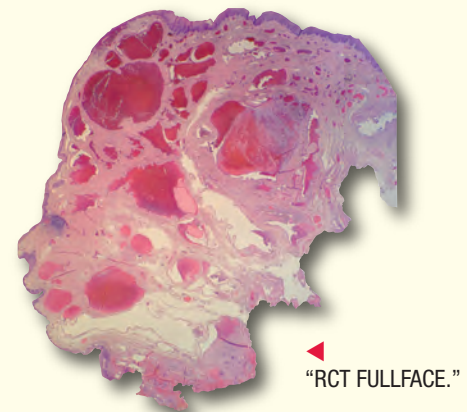
## Tenth Annual Residents' Research Day Congratulations to the ASCP40UnderForty Honorees!



▲ **Dr. Victoria Costa (PGY-3, AP/CP)** presented 2-posters at the ASCP 2019 Annual Meeting titled "PD-L1 Immunohistochemistry on Cellblock Preparations from Different Fixatives: A Pilot Study," which was a blue ribbon finalist, and "PD-L1 Expression on Cellblock Preparations of Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma." Victoria also received an award from the ASCP (American Society of Clinical Pathology) as one of the "40Under Forty," which recognizes future leaders in pathology for their achievements and leadership in pathology. This was also awarded in 2019.



▲ The digital image contest had 13-entries and the winner was **Dr. Danielle D'Ambrosio (PGY-4, AP/CP)** for her photo (right) "RCT FULLFACE."



• **Dr. Kartik Viswanathan (PGY4, AP/CP)** is the recipient of the Arthur Purdy Stout Society Study Stipend, which is an award to allow residents in pathology to spend one month at another institution to pursue study of a specific area of diagnostic surgical pathology. Dr. Viswanathan will be hosted by Dr. Jonathan Epstein at The Johns Hopkins University Hospital in the area of Genitourinary pathology.

• Our very own **Dr. Layla Hatem (PGY-4, AP/CP)** has been awarded the November 2019 Employee of the Month Award! Congratulations Layla!

• **Dr. Tobias (Toby) Cohen** was awarded the Paul E. Strandjord Young Investigator Award and, as one of the top scoring abstracts, he was a candidate for the Young Investigator Award with Distinction. Toby's abstract scored in the top 6 out of 97+ submissions for ACLPS 2019 but he didn't get the "distinction." The Strandjord award is from ACLPS (Academy of clinical laboratory physicians and scientists). ■



▲ Housestaff and Residency Program Leadership at the annual holiday party held at the Metropolitan Club.



## Welcome New Residents



### Paul Dylan Barone, MD

Paul completed his MD from Weill Cornell Medicine. His undergraduate degree is in Cell and Molecular Biology from the University of Binghamton. Paul has been around the department for a few years working with the pathology student interest group, coming

to conferences, and writing iBooks in support of medical student pathology education here at Weill Cornell. Paul is an incoming AP/CP resident.



### Shaham Beg, MBBS

Shaham completed his medical education and a residency in Pathology at the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College in Aligarh in India and has been a practicing pathologist, prior to joining the Englander Institute of Precision Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine as the previous Research Fellow. Shaham is an incoming AP/CP resident.



### Diana Rose Berman, MD

Diana completed her MD from the Howard University College of Medicine, where she was AOA. Her undergraduate degree is in Bioengineering from the University of California, LA. Diana is an incoming AP/CP resident.



### Alicia Veonia Dillard, MD

Alicia completed her MD from the Howard University College of Medicine with an academic scholarship. Her undergraduate degree is in Neuroscience from Brown University. Alicia is an incoming AP/CP resident.

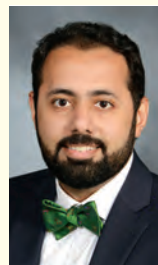


### Jeffrey Michael Kubiak, MD, PhD

Jeffrey completed his MD, PhD from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. His undergraduate degree is in Biology from Georgetown University in DC and his

PhD is in Cell and Molecular Biology- Microbiology, Virology, and Parasitology. Jeff is an incoming AP/CP resident.

## Welcome New Fellows



### Yahya Al-Ghamdi, MBBS Hematopathology

Yahya graduated medical school in 2001 from Umm Al-Qura University Faculty of Medicine from Saudi Arabia. He completed his AP/CP residency from Rush University in Chicago, IL.



### Hussein Alnajjar, MBChB Genitourinary Fellowship

Hussein completed his medical school in Iraq at Al-Mustansyria University in 2010. He then completed his AP/CP residency from Rush University in Chicago, IL. Hussein is currently completing his Surgical Pathology fellowship

at North Shore University Health System.



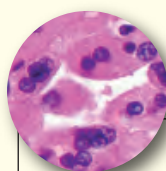
### Kenrry Chiu, MD Gastrointestinal Pathology

Kenrry joins us from Canada where he completed his Medical school at McGill University in 2014. He moved to Vancouver to complete his AP residency at the University of British Columbia.



### Erika Hissong, MD Molecular Genetics Pathology

Erika was a resident from our AP/CP program here at Weill Cornell Medicine/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital in 2018. She completed her GI fellowship here as well before moving on to her Molecular Genetics fellowship.



### Mihn Yen Mays, MD Hematopathology

Mihn graduated from Creighton University School of Medicine in 2015. She completed her AP/CP residency from Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska.



### Patrick McIntire, MD Breast Pathology

Patrick was a graduating resident from our AP program here at Weill Cornell Medicine/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital in 2018. He recently completed his first fellowship in Cytopathology at Loyla University.



### Ami Patel, MD Cytopathology

Ami completed her residency in AP/CP program Weill Cornell Medicine/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and will be staying on as a Cytopathology Fellow.



### Alexandra Budhai, MD Transfusion Medicine

Alexandra obtained her MD from Ross University School of Medicine in 2015 and completed her Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Residency training in 2019 at Westchester Medical Center/New York Medical College. She joins our department as the Transfusion Medicine Fellow, where she will complete the transfusion service portion of her fellowship from July-December 2019. ■

## Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

### Leadership Appointments:

**Melissa Cushing, MD**  
*Vice Chair for Laboratory Medicine*

**Ethel Cesarman, MD, PhD**  
*Vice Chair for Education*

**Lars Westblade, PhD**  
*Director of Clinical Microbiology*

### Promotions:

**Nina Schatz-Siemers, DO**  
*Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*

**Theresa Scognamiglio, MD**  
*Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*

**David Pisapia, MD**  
*Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*



# Faculty Publications in 2019

Sung DK, **Baergen RN**: Focal chorangiosis: Does it have clinical and pathological significance? *Pediatr Develop Pathol* 22:406-40, 2019.

Grossman TB, Heller D, **Baergen R**: Isolated acute funisitis in the absence of acute chorioamnionitis: what does it mean? *Placenta* 75:42-44, 2019.

Massimiani M, Lacko LA, Burke Swanson CS, Salvi S, Moresi S, Argueta LB, Ferrazzani S, Gelber SE, **Baergen RN**, Toschi N, Campagnolo L, Stuhlman H: Increased circulating levels of epidermal growth factor-like domain 7 in pregnant women affected by preeclampsia. *Translational Res* 207:19-29, 2019.

**Baergen RN**: Kurt Benirschke MD (1924-2018): Pioneer in perinatal and placental pathology. *Pediatr Develop Pathol* 22: 399-405, 2019.

Viswanathan K, **Borcuk AC**, **Siddiqui MT**: Orthopedia Homeobox Protein (OTP) is a sensitive and specific marker for primary pulmonary carcinoid tumors in cytologic and surgical specimens. *J Am Soc Cytopathol* 8:39-46, 2019.

**Chadburn A**, Ferry JA: Post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorders. In WHO classification of tumours of the digestive tract. MJ Arends, et al., eds. Intern Agency of Res on Cancer, Lyon, FR, 2019, 417-419, 2019.

Kim D, Uner A, Saglam A, **Chadburn A**, **Crane GM**: Peripheral eosinophilia in primary immunodeficiencies of actin dysregulation: A case series of Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome, CARML2 and DOCK8 deficiency and review of the literature. *Ann Diagn Pathol* 43:151413, 2019.

Shen B, Vardy K, Hughes P, Tasdogan A, Zhao Z, Yue R, **Crane G**, Morrison S: Integrin alpha11 is an Osteolectin receptor and is required for the maintenance of adult skeletal bone mass. *eLife* 8:e42274, 2019.

Thomasson RR, Gorham JD, Yazer MH, Dunbar NM; MTP Use Study Investigators (**Cushing MM**, **DeSimone RA**, members). International assessment of massive transfusion protocol contents and indications for activation. *Transfusion* 59:1637-1643, 2019.

**Cushing MM**, Asmis LM, Harris RM, **DeSimone RA**, Hill S, Ivascu N, Haas T: Efficacy of new pathogen-reduced cryoprecipitate stored 5 days after thawing to correct dilutional coagulopathy in vitro. *Transfusion* 59:1818-26, 2019.

**Cushing MM**, **DeSimone RA**, Goel R, **Hsu YS**, Parra P, **Racine-Brzostek SE**, Degtyarova D, Lo DT, Morrison M, Crowley KM, Rossi A, **Vasovic LV**: The impact of daratumumab on transfusion service costs. *Transfusion* 59:1252-8, 2019.

**DeSimone RA**, Ong SJ, Crowley KM, **Vasovic LV**, Senaldi E, Kessler DA, Goel R, **Hsu YS**: Hereditary elliptocytosis of donor red blood cell unit detected during Coombs cross-match. *Transfusion* 59:446-7, 2019.

**DeSimone RA**, Hayden JA, Mazur CA, **Vasovic LV**, Sachais BS, **Zhao Z**, Goel R, **Hsu YS**, **Racine-Brzostek SE**, **Cushing MM**: Red blood cells donated by smokers: A pilot investigation of recipient transfusion outcomes. *Transfusion* 59:2537-43, 2019.

**DeSimone RA**, Myers GD, Guest EM, Shi PA: Combined heparin/ACD-A anticoagulation in the Optia CMNC protocol for pediatric lymphocyte apheresis. *J Clin Apher* 34:487-9, 2019.

Kobayashi S, Contractor T, Vosburgh E, **Du YN**, Tang LH, Clausen R, Harris CR: Alleles of *Insm1* determine whether RIP1-Tag2 mice produce insulinomas or nonfunctioning pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors. *Oncogenesis* 8:16, 2019.

Choi S, Wang D, Chen X, Tang LH, Verma A, Chen Z, Kim BJ, Selesner L, Robzyk K, Zhang G, Pang S, Han T, Chan CS, Fahey TJ 3rd, Elemento O, **Du YN**: Function and clinical relevance of RHAMM isoforms in pancreatic tumor progression. *Mol Cancer* 18:92, 2019.

**Zhang G**, **Du YN**: Orthotopic pancreatic tumor mouse models

of liver metastasis. *Methods Mol Biol* 1882:309-320, 2019.

Buicko J, Finnerty BM, Zhang T, Kim B, Fahey TJ 3rd, **Du YN**: Insights into the biology and treatment strategies of pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors. *Ann Pancreatic Ca* 2:12, 2019.

Goren L, Zhang G, Kaushik S, Breslin PAS, **Du YN**, Foster DA: (-)-Oleocanthal and (-)-oleocanthal-rich olive oils induce lysosomal membrane permeabilization in cancer cells. *PLoS One* PMID: 31412041, 2019.

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