A consortium of Emory pathologists and other investigators, led by Professor Eric Hunter, Ph.D., has been awarded a five-year, $26.5-million grant from the NIH to study ways to block mucosal transmission of simian retroviruses, searching for new avenues toward the development of an effective HIV vaccine. Support from this Program Project (PO1) grant will enable the team to enhance and extend their collaborative studies of simian immunodeficiency virus, a close cousin of HIV that causes AIDS-like disease in non-human primates, with the goal of finding innovative approaches to augment B-cell immunity and to prevent viral infection across mucosal barriers, which is the primary route of HIV transmission worldwide. Dr. Hunter, a Co-Director of the Emory Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) who previously chaired the NIH’s expert advisory committee on HIV vaccines, emphasized that the grant will create a synergy of research on novel vaccine vectors, adjuvants, neutralizing antibodies, and nanotechnology that would be impossible if each investigator worked alone. Participating faculty from Pathology include all three of our Georgia Research (GRA) Alliance Eminent Scholars (i.e., Professors Hunter, Max Cooper, M.D., and Guido Silvestri, M.D.), as well as Candler Professor Bali Pulendran, Ph.D., Professor Francois Villinger, D.V.M., and Associate Professor Cindy Derdeyn, Ph.D. The consortium also includes Professors Rama Amara (Medicine, as Co-PI), Rafi Ahmed (Microbiology) and Paul Spearman (Pediatrics) from Emory, together with colleagues at four other institutions.

**Comment:** This is our Department’s second PO1 and our largest single grant award ever. It highlights the strengths of our collaborative faculty, and of our partnerships with the GRA, the CFAR, and the Emory Vaccine Center.

**Pathologists Honored for Top Emory Scientific Papers**

Two members of our Pathology Department have swept Emory’s top honors for scientific publications this year. Candler Professor Bali Pulendran, Ph.D., and Assistant Professor Matam Vijay Kumar, Ph.D., have been named the 2011 recipients of the two Albert E. Levy Awards, which recognize "the most significant contribution to the fields of natural, health, and social science by an Emory faculty member" in the senior- and junior-faculty categories, respectively. The selection committee cited Dr Pulendran as senior author of five papers published in Nature, Science, Nature Medicine, or Nature Immunology since 2009, and lauded Dr Kumar for his paper "Metabolic syndrome and altered gut microbiota in mice lacking Toll-like receptor 5" (Kumar et al., Science 328:228, 2010), co-authored with his faculty mentor, Associate Professor Andrew Gewirtz, Ph.D. The two will present brief summaries of their work and receive their awards at a ceremony on September 28, 3:00 PM, in the Goizueta Foundation Center in the Business School building, Room W525. All colleagues and other well-wishers are invited to attend.

To contribute to the next newsletter, send an email to Donna Martin (dmart06@emory.edu).
NEW FACULTY—
Kelly Magliocca, DDS, MPH

The newest addition to our Anatomic Pathology Division is Kelly Magliocca, D.D.S., M.P.H., who joins our Oral Pathology team as an Assistant Professor this month. Dr. Magliocca graduated from the dental school at the University of Michigan in 1998, and then remained at that prestigious institution for almost another decade: first for a year of dental internship followed by a four-year fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and then for four years on the faculty as a Clinical Assistant Professor, teaching and practicing oral surgery both at Michigan and at the VA Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin. She then moved to the University of Florida at Gainesville for three years of training in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, which she completed last year. Along the way, Dr Magliocca has so far published two book chapters and 13 papers (nearly all as first author), earned a Master’s degree in Public Health from the University of Wisconsin in 2010, and garnered several awards for teaching, including the Outstanding Faculty Award from the 2005 graduating dental class at Michigan. She comes to us with energy, enthusiasm, and experience, coupled with dual Board certifications and the unique perspective that comes from having trained as a surgeon before moving to the other side of the microscope. It is a great pleasure to welcome Dr Magliocca into our Department.

CASE REPORTS -
Emeritus Professor Dwight R. (“Ronnie”) Weathers, D.D.S., has been granted the additional title of “Dean Emeritus,” becoming the first person ever honored in this way by Emory’s Trustees. He certainly deserves it: Through more than 40 years on the faculty, Dr Weathers distinguished himself as Professor, Chair of Oral Pathology, and Dean in the Emory Dental School, and then as Professor and Section Chief of Oral Pathology in our Department until his retirement last year. He also won the Emory Medal in 2007 – one of the highest honors our University bestows.

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A few months ago, Dr Parslow charged a working group of Pathology faculty, representing all three Divisions, to formulate a proposed Faculty Mentorship Program for our Department. The working group, with administrative support from Ms Corey Anderson, has now submitted its formal proposal. All faculty are encouraged to review the plan and to contact any working group member with questions. We will discuss the plan at our general faculty meeting on August 31, and hold an on-line vote on it soon afterward. If a majority of faculty are in favor, our goal would be to implement it immediately.

Thanks and appreciation to all of the working group members who dedicated their time, energy, and wisdom to this important task.

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Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Mentoring Program Proposal
Prepared by Members of the Mentoring Program Working Group

Chair, Daniel J. Brat
Chief Administrator, Corey Anderson
Volkan Adsay
Angie Caliendo
Cynthia Derdeyn
Xin Gao
Cassandra Josephson
Ross Molinaro
Carlos Moreno
Susan Muller
Asma Nusrat
Adeboye Osunkoya
Chuck Parkos
Momin Siddiqui

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Mentoring Program

Goals and Objectives
- Sponsorship and advocacy of junior faculty by senior faculty
- Career guidance and advancement
- Networking opportunities
- Increased retention of faculty
- Improve the utilization of existing School of Medicine resources

Pathology Faculty Mentoring Program
- Departmental Chair and Vice Chair support of the Mentoring Program are critical for success. Encouraging a culture that promotes career development and recognizes mentoring as a core value of the Department will be necessary.
- A Committee to oversee the Mentoring Program will include the Vice Chairs, Mentoring Facilitators, Staff Administrator and a representative Mentee. The Committee Chair will be the Director of the Mentoring Program and will report to the Department Chair.
Participation in the program is highly encouraged for junior faculty by Departmental leadership, but initially will be on a voluntary basis.

Junior faculty will be assigned a mentoring facilitator in the recruitment letter. Assistant Professors who are already in the Department will be assigned a mentoring facilitator.

A roster of mentoring facilitators will be available within the Department. Facilitators may also be mentors, but this is not required.

Possible mentor-mentee relations include one-on-one or a team approach.

The program will encourage senior-junior mentoring relations rather than peer mentoring.

Mentoring Facilitators are critical to the success of the program and must be:
- Interested and dedicated to the concept of mentoring.
- Able to orient the junior faculty to the Department, School of Medicine and the mentoring process.
- Available to assist junior faculty in choosing a mentor.
- Available to mediate disputes that may arise between mentor and mentee, either by themselves or within the Mentoring Committee.
- Able to evaluate successes and shortcomings of the program over time.

The responsibilities and requirements of Mentors should be widely communicated. This will increase the likelihood of senior faculty members agreeing to participate. A mentor should:
- Receive training and have resources available to them.
- Be available. Meet with their mentee at least twice a year and review their CV, teaching portfolio and expectations of their promotion track annually.
- Assess progress and follow up on concerns.
- Stimulate questions on clinical, educational and research interests to open opportunities, including collaborations, committee memberships and important presentations.
- Facilitate career development by directing mentees to other faculty members who have insights, resources and connections that will be valuable.
- Provide guidance for grant and manuscript preparation, review prior to submission and participate in revision.

Mentee responsibilities include:
- Selecting their mentor with the assistance of the facilitator. Mentees who participate in identifying their own mentor have better outcomes than those who are assigned.
- First contact in the mentor-mentee partnership should be the responsibility of the mentee.
- Initiating all meetings and preparation of agendas.
- Follow up on agreed recommendations and action plans.

Staff should be designated to handle program responsibilities
- Develop informational packet for new faculty outlining career development opportunities within the School of Medicine. This would be provided with the recruitment letter.
- Distribute and analyze surveys (evaluation tools)
- Analyze department data (publications, committee participation, retention rates)
- Facilitate completion of Faculty Development Conference Report
- Plan awards and events

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There must be recognition and incentives for mentors. They may be:

- Awards for mentors
- Competition among divisions
- Additional travel funds for actively participating mentors
- Departmental-supported lunch meeting for mentor-mentee once per year
- Incentives to meet Departmental goals (70% participation per year)

There must be an evaluation tool in place before a mentoring program starts.

- Number of participating mentors and mentees
- Surveys of participation and job satisfaction
- Data tracking pre- and post-program
- Number of publications
- Success in obtaining funding
- Participation in institutional, regional/national/international committees and meetings
- Faculty retention
- Time to promotion

**Low cost initiatives for Immediate Implementation**

- Regularly communicate the availability and schedule of Faculty Development Lectures to Pathology faculty. Once the lectures are scheduled by School of Medicine, they should be communicated in emails from the Chairman’s office in order to increase pathology faculty attendance, especially among junior faculty.

- Increase attendance of the Junior Faculty Development Course by department members. Junior faculty should be consistently nominated once in the department for 2-3 years.

- Increase utilization of the Faculty Development Conference Report as an evaluative tool by the Department. This involves an increased awareness by the faculty, who initiate the annual evaluation.

- Develop a packet of information for new faculty outlining all career development opportunities within the School of Medicine. This would be added to the recruitment letter. Junior faculty should know what is available and expected.
In a study published in the June issue of Cancer Cytopathology, a team of Emory pathologists showed that immunohistochemical staining of cell block preparations for DOG-1, a biomarker, is 100% sensitive and specific for the diagnosis of gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST). Notably, all c-Kit-negative specimens were positive for DOG-1. The researchers concluded that DOG-1 staining may be particularly useful in the diagnosis of c-Kit-negative GIST. Dr Momin Siddiqui, our Director of Cytopathology and the senior author of the study, notes that Emory has been using it routinely for GIST diagnosis on fine-needle aspiration biopsies for at least two years.

Submitted by Associate Professor Momin Siddiqui, MD:

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Submitted by Professor Daniel Brat, MD, PhD:

Below is the Cancer Tissue and Pathology poster prepared for the upcoming NCI site visit of the Winship Cancer Institute.

A more detailed version is available in Blackboard. Use your Emory Net ID to log onto Blackboard (classes.emory.edu). Under “My Organizations”, select “Pathology Departmental Site”. In the leftbar, select “Photo Repository”.

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