

PATHOLOGY inSIGHT

Alumni Bulletin of Wake Forest University School of Medicine Department of Pathology

The Romance of Retirement

Dr. Mark Simpson seems like a very happy man these days. He got married last winter, and this summer he'll retire. That will give him plenty of time for romance. adventures and to work on his writing projects — mostly about birding in Appalachia and the history of science. He's beginning to negotiate with one of his publishers about making his book about the birds

of the Blue Ridge into a mobile phone application that birders can take out into the field with them. He and his wife, Marilyn Westphal, share an interest in birding, as well as



Marcus Simpson, MD

botany, hiking, and literature, and they are likely to move to the mountains. Dr. Simpson's appointments here included Associate Professor: Vice-Chair of Pathology; Chief of Clinical Pathology; Director of Hospital Labs; and Medical Director. School of Medical Technology. Prior to joining our department in 2002, Dr. Simpson held positions at the University of

Pittsburgh School of Medicine, George Washington, and Duke. After graduating from Davidson

(Continued on page 3)

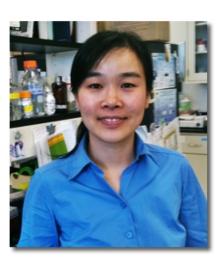
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COMING UP IN OUR NEXT ISSUE:

- ► Retirements
- ► Welcome new faculty & residents
- ► What would you like to read about? Let us know! pathalumni @wakehealth.edu

Spotlight on Postdocs: Lipid Sciences



Xuewei Zhu, PhD, in her laboratory

Dr. Xuwei Zhu has worked in Dr. John Parks' laboratory for 5-1/2 years now. She applied for the position after completing her PhD at Beijing Union Medical College in Beijing, PRC in 2005.

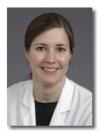
Knowing relatively little about Winston-Salem, she was interested in pursuing her studies in lipid metabolism, immune cell function, and the pathogenesis of chronic inflammatory diseases; a postdoctoral fellowship advertised at Wake Forest seemed to offer a great opportunity.

Arriving here fresh from Beijing, she remembers feeling like the road was surrounded by trees on the way home from the airport.

Like many postdoctoral researchers, she feels that a great deal of your program's success has to do with your col-

RESIDENCY PROGRAM NEWS

Congratulations new graduates!







B. Edwards, MD



C. Holley, MD



L. McCarthy, MD

Dr. Candace H. Schoppe will be completing a forensic pathology fellowship at the Office of Chief Medical Examiner, New York, NY. **Dr. Brian J. Sutton** will be completing a Breast Pathol-

ogy fellowship at Northwestern University in Chicago, IL.

Drs. Marina P. Sandoval, Richard Taylor, and Michelle Weber have not announced plans.

Dr. Sarah M. Eakin will be completing a Hematopathology Fellowship at the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY. **Dr. Bo Edwards** will be one of 5 surgi-

cal pathology fellows next year at Vanderbilt. This fellowship includes blocks of cytopathology and breast pathology on Dr. David Page's breast consultation service. The following year he will be a boardeligible cytopathology fellow in Vanderbilt's new cytopathology fellowship program, where he will also pursue an 'informal fellowship' in pediatric pathology during his second year.

Dr. Citabria Holley will be completing a Surgical Pathology fellowship here at Wake Forest Baptist Health.

Dr. Lezah McCarthy will be working with two other pathologists at Coastal Pathology Associates in southeastern NC (Onslow Memorial Hospital). She'll do forensic pathology for the surrounding counties as well as surgical pathology.

Dr. Katie Robbins will join Pathology Associates of Central Illinois in Springfield, IL.



K. Robbins, MD



C. Schoppe, MD



B. Sutton, MD



M. Sandoval, MD



R. Taylor, MD



M. Weber, MD

Residency program prepares for ACGME site visit

The Pathology Residency program – or more specifically its director Dr. Constance Stanton, program coordinator Vickie Smith, and information coordinator Alice Atwell – is busy preparing for the ACGME's site visit later this spring. ACGME is the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, and it is responsible for accreditation of all post MD training programs in the US. The Pathology Residency Training Program here at Wake For-

est Baptist Health has been accredited since 1952.

This will be the first site visit since the department began using the New Innovations system – which automatically incorporates any changes in ACGME regulations – for example, any new protocols, curriculum changes, duty hours – and also systematizes the documentation of compliance.

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(Simpson—continued from page 1)

College and earning an MD at UNC-Chapel Hill, he completed his Clinical Pathology residency and Pathology fellowship at Johns Hopkins, and his Internship and Anatomic Pathology residency at Yale. During his military service (Army) he spent several years at Walter Reed and remained with the Individual Ready Reserves, leaving in 2003 with the rank Lt. Colonel MC.

His academic positions have reflected his varied interests; he once held simultaneous appointments in Pathology and Zoology. His career has – so far – been illustrious. He's widely published in his areas of interest: blood banking and transfusion medicine; informatics; zoology/ornithology; and the history of science, and he's held a number of challenging positions.

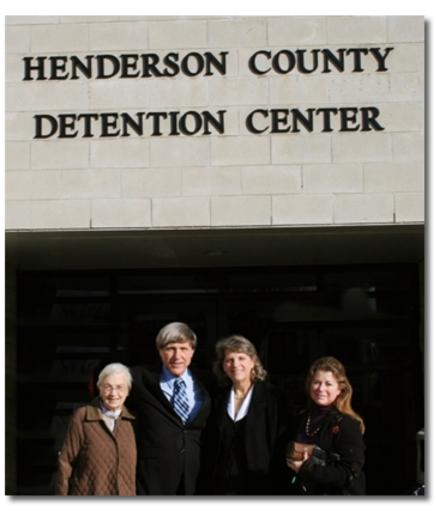
If he could start over again, though, he says he'd definitely go with molecular technology. "It's a ways off, but it's coming," he says of the day when sophisticated diagnostic tests will be easily performed at the point of care. "Biochemistry used to be kind of dull."

Dr. Simpson thinks that the real challenge to academic medicine in the future is probably going to be applying the breakthroughs of biomedical

research to patient care and service via applied technical research.

In addition to his work in the hospital's laboratories, Dr. Simpson has valued his association with the residency training program here in pathology, citing the requirement that all 2nd-year residents complete the medical technology program as particularly valuable. No other program requires it, and Dr. Simpson thinks that – in addition to the information and cognitive experiences, it also helps physicians-in-training to work a part of the overall team and provides more patient exposure.

Dr. Simpson is looking forward to their honeymoon this summer.



Dr. Simpson married Marilyn Westphal last December at the courthouse in Hendersonville. The magistrate's office, however, was in the building next door. After getting the license, the small wedding party proceeded to the Detention Center to get hitched. Here they are on the "chapel" steps, photographed by an obliging bail bondsman.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS OR QUESTIONS?

You can send us a letter or email us: pathalumni@wakehealth.edu

Read previous issues of Pathology in-Sight online at www.wakehealth.edu/ pathology/alumni.

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THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Digital scanning technology will improve service



A.J. Garvin, MD

Everything is automated and online and virtual nowadays, and the Department of Pathology is moving in that direction as well. From our new tissue processing machines to the record-keeping system that streamlines our residency program's impending ACGME review process, and now to our brand new virtual microscopy system, we are using

new technology wherever possible.

A good example is our new slide scanning system. The system allows us to make extremely high resolution digital images of microscope slides directly from the microscope or scanned from a previously prepared slide. The slides can be scanned one at a time or in large batches, and the images can be readily – and securely – shared among colleagues located upstairs, across town, or anywhere in the world. Second opinions can be sought immediately.

In addition, all images in the database will be catalogued, indexed, and archived as soon as they are uploaded, and they can easily be made available to researchers who are seeking them.

The new slide system, which is manufactured by Olympus and includes an integrated Olympus microscope, also includes a real-time viewing feature, so

Pathology inSight is a publication of the Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center Department of Pathology and it is distributed to the alumni of its residency and fellowship training, postdoctoral, and graduate education programs.

Please send address changes, updates, or other comments to us at the address on the back page, or e-mail pathalumni@wakehealth.edu.

Past issues of Pathology inSight are available online at www.wakehealth.edu/pathology/alumni.



The microscope (above, left) is part of the Olympus VS110 workstation, which includes high resolution monitor (center), and the attached NanoZoomer slide scanner (far right), which can process up to 210 slides at a time in each slide cassette.

that groups of students can examine and discuss an individual slide under the microscope at the same time.

Our goal is not, of course, to get as many new gadgets as we can, but rather to determine what will serve us best and to incorporate that technology wherever it's appropriate. We want to enhance our administrative efficiency, improve our diagnostic capacity and accuracy, and provide the best possible equipment for the students, clinicians, and researchers who use our facilities.

> -A. Julian Garvin, MD PhD, is the Robert W. Prichard Chair of Pathology



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FACULTY NEWS

Welcome to new Director of Clinical Chemistry

Dr. Steven H. Wong was appointed Professor of Pathology and joined the department this spring as the new Director of Clinical Chemistry.

He was most recently Professor of Pathology as well as Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine and Population Health - Epidemiology at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

While there he also served as Scientific Director for Toxicology and Pharmacogenomics at the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office, and Consulting Scientific Director for the Drug Evaluation Laboratory at Wisconsin Community Services (Pretrial Services).



Steven Wong, MD

Prior to moving to Milwaukee, he held academic and clinical appointments at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and John Dempsey Hospital; Beijing Medical University; Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; and Johns Hopkins Hospital. His BA and MA are in Chemistry, with a PhD in Nuclear Chemistry. He was nominated last year to the White House Subcommittee on Forensic Science, and has published prodigiously on therapeutic drug monitoring and clinical toxicology.

His first grandchild, Austin Yan-Fong Voorhees, was born in March of 2011. He has three grown children and lives in Winston-Salem with his wife, Gretta K. Wong.

Dr. Jan Wagner appointed Dean for Research

Dean William Applegate announced last month that Dr.
Janice D. Wagner of Pathology –
Comparative Medicine, has been named Vice President/Senior Associate Dean for Research at Wake Forest School of Medicine. Dr. Wagner was selected following a national search to fill the



Jan Wagner, DVM PhD

position previously held by Dr. Sally Shumaker, Professor of Social Sciences and Health Policy, Division of Public Health Sciences. Dr. Shumaker stepped down from the post on July 1, 2010, and Dr. Wagner has served since then as the Interim Senior Associate Dean.

As Senior Associate Dean, Dr. Wagner's will be charged with fostering and facilitating increased research funding opportunities and creating opportunities to excel in research and scholarship. Her role is to partner with the Dean in broadening and executing the vision of science and research at Wake Forest School of Medicine and the Medical Center overall

Dr. Wagner will retain her faculty appointment as Professor of Pathology – Comparative Medicine, but will step down as Director of the Animal Resources Program.

She is also a professor in the Translational Science Institute, an associate in the Institute for Regenerative Medicine, and member of the Diabetes Research Center. She received her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine, a PhD in Molecular and Cellular Pathobiology from Wake Forest School of Medicine, and her MS in Pharmacology from the University of Virginia School of Medicine. Dr. Wagner is boardcertified by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. She recently completed the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership training program in academic medicine.

Dr. Richard Young of Comparative Medicine will serve as interim director of the ARP.

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MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY PROGRAM

Recent graduates



S. Rong, PhD

Dr. Shunxing Rong has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship in Molecular Genetics in the Department of Internal Medicine-Digestive and Liver Diseases at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX.



Lin Jia, PhD



A. Wilhelm, PhD

Dr. Lin Jia has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship in the Division of Hypothalamic Research and Departments of Internal Medicine at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX.

Dr. Ashley J. Wilhelm has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Medicine/Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

(Zhu, continued from page 1)

leagues. "A lot depends on your mentor," she said. "Dr. Parks is very patient." She recalls that her first seminar had seemed disastrous at the time. Her topic had to do with macrophages and inflammation, with a more indepth and narrow focus on the biochemistry than she felt her audience was used to – and she was self-conscious about her English. They sat through her presentation in stony silence. and had no questions at the end. She was devastated. "I felt like nobody was interested," she said, but Dr. Parks reassured her that her research was good, and she has moved on to find more collaborators and make connections with her colleagues, and, most importantly, to publish her results. She remains very happy with her research.

And for his part, her advisor is extremely happy with her role in his research team. "What can I say?" he asked. "She's just great!"

It helps, too, that there is a small but growing community of Chinese people living in Winston-Salem – many of whom work here at the Medical Center. In fact, she had a "small

world" moment when she met Dr. Liqing Yu (formerly of Lipid Sciences but now of Biochemistry): it turned out that one of her advisors back in Beijing had a connection to someone on Dr. Yu's own committee

Dr. Zhu has also faced the "two-body" problem faced by many young academics in every field: how do you find

positions for two scientists at the same institution, or even in the same city? Dr. Zhu's husband Zhan Wang had stayed behind in Beijing for a year to complete his PhD, and the couple was very pleased that he was able to find a postdoctoral position with the Institute for Regenerative Medicine when the time came to join her here.

SPOTLIGHT ON POSTDOCS

Postdoctoral fellowships are important steps on the career path of any scientist; they are also a vital part of the scholarly activity of the host institution and department. The National Science Foundation estimated in 2008 that there were approximately 89,000 postdocs involved in research in the US -- and they predict that this number will continue to grow. Their work is central, yet they often labor in relative obscurity, and then move on to other institutions to build their careers. Many others, however, are hired by their respective departments and remain on the faculty.

The number of postdoctoral researchers employed in the department varies from year to year, depending on grant funding, and availability of suitable mentors. This new series "Spotlight on Postdocs" will feature one of them in forthcoming issues in Pathology in Sight.

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RESEARCH NEWS

Iron-regulating protein predicts breast cancer prognosis

Dr. Tim Kute and Dr. Mark Willingham, both of Tumor Biology and Anatomic Pathology, are part of a team whose NIH-funded study recently published results suggesting that may eventually help some women with breast cancer avoid invasive and highly toxic treatments.



Mark Willingham, MD

The team found that low levels of a protein called ferroportin, which eliminates iron from cells, are found in the most aggressive (and most likely to recur) cancers. Higher levels of the protein, on the other hand, appear to occur in less aggressive cases. The ability to predict which patients will do well with less invasive treatments will be a boon to



Tim Kute, PhD

physicians.

Studies conducted using a mouse model suggested that restoration of ferroportin in the cells slowed tumor growth.

The human studies included genetic information as well as multi-year clinical follow-up for more than 800 breast cancer patients worldwide;

these investigations confirmed

that the effects are not confined to mouse cancers or cells isolated in the lab, but occur in the tissues of women with cancer.

The Comprehensive Cancer research team that published this study is led by Drs. Frank Torti, Suzy Torti, and Lance Miller.

ARP is named an "exemplary animal care program"

Dr. Jan Wagner of Comparative Medicine, director of the Animal Resources Program (ARP) until her appointment to the Dean's office (see page 5, this issue), announced the results of the recent site visit from the AAALAC. Since 1996, the ARP, which cares for the animals used in teaching and research throughout the institution, has been accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International program, and was named an exemplary

DEATH INVESTIGATION SEMINAR

The 2011 Death Investigation Seminar, organized by Forensic Pathologist Dr. Jerri McLemore, was held March 27. It was well attended, with 111 registrants. Feedback has been positive, and an annual program will be organized as long as there is enough interest.

animal care program in its most recent recertification review.

"It was a great site visit," said Dr. Wagner.
"The only way you can have an exemplary program is with exemplary people working here."
The evaluators specifically praised the program's commitment to environmental enrichment and ongoing staff training, as well as safety, security, and occupational health.

AAALAC accreditation demonstrates that an institution is committed to animal welfare in science, and serious about maintaining high standards for their care. The accreditation process includes an extensive and ongoing internal review; AAALAC evaluators then conduct their own comprehensive on-site assessment. Their report is then reviewed by the entire Council on Accreditation, which determines accreditation status.

After an institution earns accreditation, it must be re-evaluated every three years in order to maintain its accredited status. Currently more than 800 organizations in 34 countries have earned AAALAC accreditation. Accreditation benefits an institution and the animals in its care in many ways, and helps to raise the standard for animal well-being in science.



SCHOOL of MEDICINE

ONLINE GIFTS:

To make an online gift to Pathology, go to www.wakehealth.edu/Giving. In the designation field, please note "Pathology Discretionary Fund."

LEAVE A LEGACY:

You can make a lasting and profound impact on groundbreaking research, state-of-the-art medical education and outstanding patient care. Consider including Wake Forest University Health Sciences/Department of Pathology in your will, or naming us beneficiary of a retirement plan or insurance policy, or establishing a charitable annuity or trust that will pay you an income for life. For more information, please contact John Gillon, Senior Director of Gift Planning, Wake Forest University Health Sciences, 800-899-7128 or jgillon@wakehealth.edu.



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