Department of Pathology & Immunology

The Department of Pathology & Immunology (http://pathology.wustl.edu) is involved in the clinical diagnosis and monitoring of disease, in the teaching of pathology and immunology, and in research on the molecular basis of disease and immunology.

The department is responsible through its divisions for studying the pathogenesis and the biochemical and anatomical basis of diseases. Pathologists do research on disease processes using molecular, genetic and structural analysis. Pathologists have the responsibility for the cytological and anatomical diagnosis of diseases and for developing novel structural and molecular approaches for the analysis of them, particularly cancers and infectious diseases. The divisions of Anatomic and Molecular Pathology (https://pathology.wustl.edu/divisions/amp), Immunobiology (https://pathology.wustl.edu/divisions/immunobiology), Laboratory and Genomic Medicine (http://pathology.wustl.edu/divisions/lgm) and Neuropathology (http://pathology.wustl.edu/divisions/neuropathology) have faculty involved in teaching, clinical service and research. Prominent areas of research include experimental diabetes, hematology, bone pathophysiology, cancer, and gastrointestinal and vascular pathology.

The department teaches an extensive course in the second year of the curriculum and presents a number of conferences that third- and fourth-year students can attend. The department also offers a number of clerkships. The course director of the second-year Pathology course is Erika C. Crouch, PhD, MD. Students can take clerkships in Autopsy Pathology, Surgical Pathology or Laboratory Medicine, or participate in the research activities of the faculty.

The Division of Immunobiology (https://pathology.wustl.edu/divisions/immunobiology) integrates immunobiology activities in the school. It is responsible for the teaching of immunology in the first year of the curriculum (Brian T. Edelson, MD, PhD, is the course director) and for conducting basic research in immunobiology and in the immunological basis of disease.

Many faculty in the department are involved in graduate teaching and participate in the various programs offered by the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences (http://dbbs.wustl.edu/Pages). The department has strong participation in the Immunology graduate program.

Website: https://pathology.wustl.edu

Degrees & Requirements

While the Department of Pathology & Immunology does not offer its own degree, some of the department’s courses are open to students in the MD and MSTP (MD/PhD) programs. Further information about the MD and MSTP degrees can be found in the Degrees & Programs Offered (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/medicine/degrees) section of this Bulletin.

Research

Paul M. Allen, PhD
BJC Institute of Health, 8th Floor
Phone: 314-362-8758
Research in immunology. The recognition of antigen by T cells. We are investigating how the T cell receptor functions developmentally, biochemically and structurally. We utilize in vivo models to study the role of T cells in alloreactivity/grant rejection and inflammatory bowel disease.

Jacques U. Baenziger, MD, PhD
Kingshighway Building, 2nd Floor, Room 2423
Phone: 314-362-8730
Glycobiology, informational role of carbohydrates in protein targeting and reproductive endocrinology.

Jeffrey I. Gordon, MD
4444 Forest Park, 5th Floor
Phone: 314-362-7243
Genomic and metabolic foundations of symbiotic host-microbial interactions in the human gut; impact on obesity and malnutrition.

Michael McDaniel, PhD
3709 West Building
Phone: 314-362-7435
The focus of this laboratory is to study the function and growth of pancreatic islets in Types 1 and 2 diabetes. Mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) is a protein kinase that integrates signals from growth factors and nutrients to regulate DNA and protein synthesis. G protein-coupled receptor agonists, such as GLP-1, have been shown to enhance proinsulin biosynthesis and secretion, and stimulate cellular growth and proliferation. Our objective is to further explore the mechanisms of action of GLP-1 to enhance DNA and protein synthesis via mTOR in rodent and human islets. These studies are of fundamental interest in optimizing mTOR to induce cellular growth and proliferation to: (1) enhance pre- and post-islet transplantation in Type 1 diabetes and (2) prolong b-cell compensation in response to insulin resistance in Type 2 diabetes. b-cell failure in obesity-associated Type 2 diabetes is believed to correlate with the intracellular accumulation of lipids that contribute to defects in insulin secretion and maintenance of b-cell mass. Our studies have identified lipoprotein lipase in b-cells, a key enzyme for catalyzing the hydrolysis of lipoprotein-associated TAG, to produce free fatty acids (FFA) for local cellular uptake. We are also characterizing the effects of enhanced FFA
uptake through fatty acid transporters and determining the regulation of lipid droplet synthesis and breakdown by lipid droplet associated proteins. Recent studies suggest that FFA up-regulate mitochondrial uncoupling proteins proposed to dissipate the proton gradient across the mitochondrial inner membrane. The objective of this study is to delineate the link between FFA and b-cell mitochondrial dysfunction in Type 2 diabetes.

Kenneth M. Murphy, MD, PhD
Clinical Sciences Research Building, 7th Floor, Room 7766
Phone: 314-362-2009
Function of dendritic cells in T cell responses and anti-tumor vaccines.

Robert D. Schreiber, PhD
BJC Institute of Health, 8th Floor
Phone: 314-362-8747
Tumor Immunology and Cancer Immunoediting. Research on natural and therapeutically induced responses to tumors and definition of the molecular roles of interferon-gamma and interferon-alpha/beta in these processes.

Carl H. Smith, MD
St. Louis Children's Hospital
Phone: 314-454-6029
Placental transport and surface membrane structure and function.

Thaddeus S. Stappenbeck, MD, PhD
Clinical Sciences Research Building, North Tower, Room 1020
Phone: 314-362-4214
My lab studies the cause of inflammatory bowel disease, a condition that leads to spontaneous inflammation of the intestine. We study the mechanisms of host gene mutations as well as abnormalities in host-microbial interactions that drive this disease.

Steven Teitelbaum, MD
Barnes-Jewish Hospital
Phone: 314-454-8463
Cellular and molecular mechanisms of bone remodeling with particular emphasis on osteoclast biology as relates to pathogenesis and prevention of diseases, such as osteoporosis. We focus on integrin and cytokine biology utilizing a variety of genetically-manipulated mice.

John Turk, MD, PhD
6609 Wohl
Phone: 314-362-8190
Phospholipase A2 (PLA2) enzymes in regulating insulin secretion from pancreatic islet cells, e.g., a novel iPLA2 that does not require Ca2+ cloned from rat and human islets that is involved in cell secretion and proliferation. Studies of iPLA2, its post-translational modifications, and its interactions with other proteins involve mice that are iPLA2-deficient globally or in selected tissues, transgenic mice that overexpress iPL2 in cells, and insulinoma cells with genetically manipulated iPLA2 expression. Mass spectrometric characterization of proteins and complex lipids is an important tool in these studies.

Emil R. Unanue, MD
BJC Institute of Health, 8414
Phone: 314-362-8748
Research in immunobiology/immunopathology. Examination of cellular interactions resulting in immune induction and cellular immunity. These cellular interactions are examined in normal immune responses and in autoimmune diseases. The focus is to identify the proteins responsible for activation of lymphocytes in Type 1 diabetes.

Herbert Virgin, MD, PhD
Clinical Sciences Research Building, Room 8849
Phone: 314-362-9223
We work on issues at the interface of virology and immunology by analyzing aspects of viral immunity, viral pathogenesis, and viral genetics that contribute to virulence and disease.

Mark A. Watson, MD, PhD
Clinical Sciences Research Building, North Tower, Room 1029
Phone: 314-454-7919
Our laboratory is interested in defining patterns of somatic gene mutation, gene expression, and quantitative tumor clonality that can be used to predict distant site metastases and therapeutic vulnerability in patients with lung and breast cancer. Experimental approaches use histopathological review, and next generation DNA exome and RNA sequencing (NGS) of primary cancer patient tissues, coupled with bioinformatics and statistical modeling to identify candidate biomarker patterns that may be useful for the clinical management of cancer patients.

Faculty
Anatomic and Molecular Pathology Division Head
Steven L. Teitelbaum, MD
Immunobiology Division Head
Gwendalyn Randolph, PhD
Laboratory and Genomic Medicine Division Co-Heads
Charles Eby, MD
Thaddeus Stappenbeck, MD, PhD
Neuropathology Division Head
Robert E. Schmidt, MD, PhD
Visit our website for more information about our faculty (https://pathology.wustl.edu/people) and their appointments.

A
Paul M Allen, MS, PHD
Robert L. Kroc Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MS University of Michigan 1977
PHD University of Michigan 1981
BS University of Michigan 1974

Gaya K Amarasinghe, PHD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics
Associate Professor of Molecular Microbiology
PHD University of Maryland 2001
BS City College 1997

Ferdinand Enginco Amarillo, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD Florida State University 2010

Neil William Anderson, BS1, MD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
BS1 University of Wisconsin-Madiso 2005
MD University of Wisconsin-Madiso 2009

Maksym Artomov, MS, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MS University of Chicago 2005
PHD Mass Inst of Technology (MIT) 2009

Michael James Barratt, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD KINGS COLLEGE LONDON 1994

Melissa Anne Barrow, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD University of Queensland 2003

Cory Thomas Bernadt, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS Nebraska Wesleyan University 1998
MD University of Nebraska 2006
PHD University of Nebraska 2004

Deepta Bhattacharya, PHD
Adjunct Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD University of CA Berkeley 2001
BS Indiana University Bloomington 1996

Carey-Ann Dawn Burnham, PHD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Associate Professor of Molecular Microbiology

Associate Professor of Pediatrics
BS University of Alberta 2002
PHD University of Alberta 2007

Dengfeng Cao, PHD, MD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD University of Pittsburgh 2001
MD Peking Union Medical College 1996

Yang Cao, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD Univ of Wisconsin Madison 2014

Javier A Carrero-Brewer, PHD, MA
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2005
BS Emory University 1996
MA University of Puerto Rico 2000

Marina Cella, MD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD University of Genova 1989

Deyali Chatterjee, MD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD Calcutta University 2001

Rebecca D Chernock, MD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Associate Professor of Otolaryngology
MD University of Pennsylvania 2004
BS Brown University 1999

Kyanghee Choi, MS, PHD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MS Seoul National University 1984
BS Seoul National University 1982
PHD University of Illinois 1988

John Spellman Aranake Chrisinger, MD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BA Washington Univ in St. Louis 2004
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2012

Patrick L Collins, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD Vanderbilt University 2011

Marco Colonna, MD
Robert Rock Belliveau MD Professor of Pathology (primary appointment)
Professor of Medicine  
MD Parma University 1983

Leigh Anne Compton, PhD, MD  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
PHD Vanderbilt University 2005  
BS Centenary College Louisiana 1998  
MD Vanderbilt University 2008

Joseph C. Corbo, PhD, MD, AB  
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Professor of Genetics  
Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
PHD University of California 1997  
BS Stanford University 1990  
MD University of California 1999  
AB Stanford University 1990

Erika C Crouch, MD, PhD  
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD University of Washington 1979  
PHD University of Washington 1978

Sonika M Dahiya, MD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD Kasturba Medical College 2000

Gautam Dantas, PhD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Associate Professor of Molecular Microbiology  
Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering  
PHD University of Washington 2005  
BS Macalester College 2000

Louis P Dehner, MD  
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Professor of Pathology in Pediatrics  
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1966  
BA Washington Univ in St. Louis 1962

George J Despotis, MD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology  
BA Greenville College 1981  
MD Saint Louis University 1985

Dennis J. Dietzen, PhD  
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Professor of Pediatrics  
PHD Indiana University Bloomington 1992  
BS Marian College 1986

Eric James Duncavage, MD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD University of Tennessee 2004  
BS Vanderbilt University 1998

William Michael Dunne Jr, PhD  
Adjunct Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
BS Univ of Wisconsin Madison 1975  
PHD Univ of Wisconsin Madison 1981

Charles S Eby, MD  
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Interim Head of the Department of Pathology and Immunology  
Professor of Medicine  
BS Duke University 1977  
MD Vanderbilt University 1981

Brian T. Edelson, MD, PhD, UNKNOWN  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2004  
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1995  
UNKNOWN Brown University 1995

Takeshi Egawa, MD, PhD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD Osaka University 1994  
PHD Osaka University 2002

David Eisenstein, MD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (Pending Executive Faculty Approval) (primary appointment)  
MD University of Cincinnati 1989

Ali Hassan Ellebedy, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
PHD Univ of TN - Health Sci Center 2011  
BS Cairo University 2004

John Lawrence Frater, MD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD Medical College of Ohio 1996  
BS University of Notre Dame 1992

Daved H Fremont, PhD  
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics  
Professor of Molecular Microbiology  
PHD University of CA San Diego 1993  
BS Univ of Wisconsin Madison 1986
G

Joseph P. Gaut, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Assistant Professor of Medicine
BA Washington Univ in St. Louis 1996
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2004
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2004

Susan Gilfillan, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BA University of Denver 1982
PHD Stanford University 1990

Jeffrey I Gordon, MD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Director of the Center for Genome Sciences
Dr Robert J Glaser Distinguished University Professor
Professor of Developmental Biology
Professor of Medicine
BA Oberlin College 1969
MD University of Chicago 1973

Nicholas Wayne Griffin, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2010

Ann Marie Gronowski, MS, PHD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
BS University of Illinois 1985
MS Iowa State University 1988
PHD Univ of Wisconsin Madison 1992

Brenda Jean Grossman, MS, MD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Professor of Medicine
MS Saint Louis University 2003
MD Medical College Georgia 1980
BS Ohio University 1976

Matthew Michael Gubin, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD University of MO Columbia 2012
BS University of MO Columbia 2004

H

Ian Sean Hagemann, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
BA Princeton University 2000
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2008
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2008

Scott A Handley, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS Southwest Misori St Universi 1998
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2006

Thomas Joseph Hannan, DVM, BA1
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BA Georgetown University 1989
DVM Tufts University 1995
BA1 Georgetown University 1989

Anjum Hassan, MD, MD1
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD Aga Khan University 1989
MD1 School Not Listed 1989

Mai He, MD, PHD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD Fudan University 1993
PHD Rutgers University 2001

Jonathan W Heusel, PHD, MD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Professor of Genetics
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1995
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1995

Matthew Charles Hibberd, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS Lincoln School of Commerce 2007
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2016

J

Ronald R Jackups Jr., PHD, MD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
PHD University of Illinois Chicago 2008
MD University of Illinois Chicago 2008
BS Washington Univ in St. Louis 2000

K

Kiwook Kim, MS, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MS Handong Global University 2006
PHD Weizmann Institute of Science 2011
BS Handong Global University 2004

John M Kissane, MD
Retiree - Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BA University of Rochester 1948
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1952

Eynav Yafit Klechevsky, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD Baylor University 2007

Friederike H. Kreisel, MD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD Goethe University 1995

Hannah Rachel Krigman, MD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD University of North Carolina 1988
BA Amherst College 1983

Michael Kyriakos, MD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD Albert Einstein College of Med 1962
BS City College 1958

Jack H Ladenson, PHD
Oree M Carroll and Lillian B Ladenson Professor of Clinical Chemistry in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Professor of Clinical Chemistry in Medicine
BS Pennsylvania State University 1964
PHD University of Maryland 1971

Steven Lee LaRue, MS, MD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MS Central Missouri St Universit 1980
MD University of MO Columbia 1995
BS Central Missouri St Universit 1979

Yi-Shan Lee, PHD, MD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD Duke University 2008
MD National Taiwan University 2000

Daisy W Leung, PHD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics
BS Amherst College 1997
PHD University of Texas Southwest 2005

Cheryl Faye Lichti, D SC, BAS
Assistant Professor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
D SC Duke University 1993
BAS Hendrix College 1988

Heide Maria Lind, MD
Associate Professor in Pathology and Immunology (Pending Executive Faculty Approval) (primary appointment)
MD University of Iowa 1979

Ta-Chiang Liu, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD National Yang-Ming University 1997
PHD Imperial College 2003

Chang Liu, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD Peking Union Medical College 2004
PHD Oregon Health Science Univers 2010

Latisha D Love-Gregory, BS2, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS2 Rust College 1995
PHD University of MO Columbia 2001
BS Rust College 1995

Olga Y. Lubman, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS Goucher College 1998
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2002
BA Goucher College 1998

Horacio M Maluf, MD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD University of Cordoba 1984

Samantha N. McNulty, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS Saint Louis University 2005
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2012

Nima Mosammaparast, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD University of Virginia 2006
PHD University of Virginia 2005
BS University of Rochester 1998

Kenneth M Murphy, PHD, MD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Eugene Orie First Centennial Professor of Pathology and Immunology
Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator in Pathology and Immunology
PHD Johns Hopkins University 1984
MD Johns Hopkins University 1984

Theresa L Murphy, PHD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS University of Arizona 1978
PHD Johns Hopkins University Medic 1983

Rakesh Nagarajan, PHD, MD, BA1
Adjunct Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology
(primary appointment)
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2002
BA University of Virginia 1994
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2002
BA1 University of Virginia 1994

Julie Ann Neidich, MD
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD George Washington University 1983

Christopher A Nelson, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS Univ of Wisconsin Madison 1985
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1995

Eugene Merle Oltz, PHD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Vice Chair of Pathology and Immunology for Faculty Development
PHD Columbia University 1987
BS Cornell University 1982

Bijal A. Parikh, MD, PHD
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD U Medical-Dental Of New Jersey 2006
PHD Rutgers University 2004

Jacqueline Elise Payton, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS Bradley University 1996
MD University of Illinois 2004
PHD University of Illinois 2002

Richard J. Perrin, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD University of Illinois Chicago 2004
PHD University of Illinois 2001
BS Yale University 1992

John David Pfeifer, MD, PHD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Vice Chairman for Clinical Affairs of Pathology and Immunology
MD University of California 1988
PHD University of California 1997
BA University of California 1981

Gwendalyn Jan Randolph, PHD
Unanue Distinguished Professor of Immunology (primary appointment)
Professor of Medicine
BS Temple University 1991
PHD State University of New York 1995

Alejandro Reyes
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology
-primary appointment)

Jon H Ritter, MD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BA Mankato St University 1983
MD University of Minnesota 1988

Stephen Matthew Roper, MS, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MS Texas Tech University 2007
PHD Medical University of Sth Car 2015
BS Texas Tech University 2004

Marianna B Ruzinova, MD, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD Cornell University 2005
PHD Cornell University 2004

Souzan Sanati, MD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MD Iran Univ of Medical Sciences 1993

Robert Edward Schmidt, MD, PHD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BA Washington Univ in St. Louis 1969
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1976
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1976

Robert D Schreiber, PHD
Andrew M Bursky and Jane M Bursky Distinguished Professor (primary appointment)
Professor of Molecular Microbiology
BA State University of New York 1968
PHD State University of New York 1973

Molly Schroeder, PHD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (Pending Executive Faculty Approval) (primary appointment)
PHD Baylor College of Medicine 2012
BS Saint Louis University 2006

Mitchell G Scott, MS, PHD
Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Clinical Research Assistant Professor of Medicine
BS Washington Univ in St. Louis 1974
MS University of Missouri 1977
Jennifer K Sehn, MD  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
BS Georgia Tech 2007  
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2011  

Andrey S Shaw, MD  
Adjunct Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD Columbia University 1984  
BA Columbia University 1979  

Kathleen C Sheehan, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
BS University of Notre Dame 1980  
PHD Saint Louis University 1986  

Thaddeus S. Steppenbeck, PhD, MD  
Conan Professor of Laboratory and Genomic Medicine (primary appointment)  
Professor of Developmental Biology  
PHD Northwestern University 1994  
MD Northwestern University 1995  
BA Northwestern University 1987  

Sanjay Joshua Swamidass, PhD, MA, MD  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering  
PHD University of California 2007  
MA University of California 2006  
BS University of California 2000  
MD University of California 2009  

Wojciech A. Swat, PhD, MS  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
PHD University of Basel 1992  
MS University of Warsaw 1989  

Steven L Teitelbaum, MD  
Messing Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Professor of Medicine  
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1964  
BA Columbia University 1960  

Suzanne Renee Thibodeaux, PhD, MD  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
PHD Univ Texas Health Sci San Anto 2011  
MD Univ Texas Health Sci San Anto 2013  
BS Tulane University 2005  

Emil Raphael Unanue, MD  
Paul and Ellen Lacy Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD Havana University 1960  
BS Institute of Secondary Educati 1952  

Steven John Van Dyken, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (Pending Executive Faculty Approval) (primary appointment)  
BS Calvin College 1998  
PHD University of San Diego 2006  

Kelli Lynn VanDussen, PhD  
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (Pending Dean's Approval) (primary appointment)  
BS Grand Valley St University 2004  
PHD University of Michigan 2010  

William Vermi  
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  

Herbert W Virgin IV, PhD, MD  
Mallinckrodt Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
Professor of Medicine  
Professor of Molecular Microbiology  
PHD Harvard University 1985  
BA Harvard University 1977  
MD Harvard University 1985  

Xiaoxiao Wan, PhD  
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
PHD University of MO Columbia 2015  

Xiaoii Wang, MD, MS, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
MD Third Military Medical Univ 1977  
MS School Not Listed 1989  
PHD University of Arkansas 2001  

Mark A Watson, MD, PhD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
BA University of Pennsylvania 1985  
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1992  
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1992  

George Randolphe Wettach, MS, MD  
Associate Professor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)  
BS University of CA Berkeley 1995  
MS Eastern Virginia Med School 2002
MD Eastern Virginia Med School 2006

**Frances V White, MS, MD**
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
MS University of North Carolina 1978
MD University of North Carolina 1989
BA Princeton University 1975

**Craig B. Wilen, MD, PhD, AB**
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (Pending Dean's Approval) (primary appointment)
MD University of Pennsylvania 2013
PHD University of Pennsylvania 2011
AB Washington Univ in St. Louis 2016

**Terry A Woodford-Thomas, PhD, MS**
Adjunct Research Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
BS Eastern Illinois University 1975
PHD Va Polytechnic Inst & State U 1982
MS Purdue University 1977

**Y**

**Melanie Leann Yarbrough, PhD**
Instructor in Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD University of Texas Southwest 2009

**Z**

**Guoyan Zhao, PhD, MS**
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2003
BS School Not Listed 1995
MS School Not Listed 1998

**Zhongren Zhou, MD, PhD, MS**
Associate Professor of Pathology and Immunology (Pending Executive Faculty Approval) (primary appointment)
MD Hubei Medical University 1986
PHD Shanghai Medical University 1993
MS Capital U of Medical Sciences 1989

**Bernd Heinrich Zinselmeyer, PhD**
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
PHD University of Strathclyde 2006

**Wei Zou, MA, PhD**
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Immunology (primary appointment)
MA Qingdao University 1994
PHD Hebrew University 2003

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**Courses**

Visit online course listings to view offerings for M60 Path (https://courses.wustl.edu/CourseInfo.aspx?sch=M&dept=M60).

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**M60 Path 665 Pathology**

This course is a comprehensive survey of the biology and morphology of human disease through a combination of lectures and laboratory sessions. The year begins with a review of basic disease mechanisms at the cellular and molecular level. Subsequently, the pathogenesis and characteristics of important diseases involving each organ system of the body are presented. During the year, students will become familiar with the methods of contemporary pathologic analysis. They will also learn how the results of pathologic studies are used in the clinical setting to establish diagnoses, to assess prognosis and response to therapy, and to evaluate the quality of patient care.

Credit 115 units.

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**M60 Path 702 Laboratory Medicine Clerkship**

This elective is designed to teach the student how clinical laboratory assays are used in the diagnosis of disease and to understand the quality assurance tools the laboratory utilizes to assure the reliability of tests. The four-week elective includes rotations through laboratories in clinical chemistry, clinical microbiology, transfusion medicine and hematology. During the elective the student will have a daily schedule, which includes didactic sessions with senior staff and house staff. Particularly useful clinical skills to be acquired include: morphology of peripheral blood smears and bone marrow biopsies; interpretation of coagulation tests, biomarkers of cardiac damage and serum protein electrophoresis patterns; appropriate use of blood component therapy and therapeutic apheresis; and identification of infectious organisms. Students will attend quality assurance meetings with senior staff, participate in microbiology rounds and present case discussions during this elective.

Credit 115 units.

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**M60 Path 750 Surgical Pathology Clerkship**

This elective is designed to familiarize students with the discipline of surgical pathology and to encourage the development of basic skills in gross pathology and histopathological interpretation. The Laboratory of Surgical Pathology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital receives a broad range of medical biopsy material in addition to specimens derived from the busy surgical subspecialty practices. As a result, this elective is beneficial not only for students considering a career in pathology, but also for students planning careers in internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics-gynecology, pediatrics, radiology, radiation oncology and dermatology. Students on this elective will (1) learn how patient specimens are received and processed, (2) acquire skills in the gross examination and microscopic diagnosis of disease through active participation and (3) learn the role of the pathologist in the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care and management of patients. Students will function as junior house staff managing their own cases with supervision from residents, fellows and attending pathologists. Students may also wish to participate in ongoing research projects within the department as time, and interest, allows. The daily schedule for students begins at 8:00 a.m. with morning conference. In general, the student will be able to complete all gross examination and sign-out activities by 4:30 p.m. Students are welcome to stay beyond 4:30 p.m. to participate in any of the academic or other working
activities of the division. Student time distribution: Clinical duties 85%, Conference/Lectures 15%. Major teaching responsibility: Attend rounds; residents and fellows. Patients seen/weekly: N/A. On-call/weekend responsibility: None.

M60 Path 805 Autopsy Pathology
The full-time elective is designed to introduce students to autopsy pathology. Students will assist in performing autopsies, and together with the first-year pathology residents, will participate in all of the activities of the Autopsy Service including brain cutting, specialty microscopic conferences, and weekly autopsy case conferences. Students will be under the direction of senior pathology faculty.

M60 Path 807 Dermatopathology
The student will be involved in all activities of the dermatopathology service. These include review, discussion and signout of gross and microscopic skin specimens. Signout occurs each day with a team that includes an attending, fellow, and residents from both dermatology and pathology. The medical student will work closely with the residents and fellow to preview cases prior to signout. Dermatology Grand Rounds and dermatopathology lectures are held on Thursday mornings and are mandatory. In addition, dermatopathology slide review conferences are held on Friday mornings and are mandatory. Other learning opportunities include daily Consensus Conference, informal unknown slide sessions, weekly Dermatology Consult Clinicopathologic Conference and monthly Cutaneous Lymphoma Conference and Journal Club. The primary goal of this elective is to acquire basic competence in the diagnosis of skin diseases at the microscopic level. A secondary goal is to acquire understanding of the structure and function of the laboratory at the technical, administrative and medical professional level as it pertains to skin specimens.

M60 Path 812 General Cytology
This elective is designed to familiarize students with the discipline of cytology and to encourage the development of basic skills. Cytology impacts many different areas of patient care and medical practice. The Cytology Laboratory at Barnes-Jewish Hospital receives a broad range of medical cytology material involving fine needle aspiration biopsies (FNA), body fluids and PAP tests. As a result, the elective is beneficial for students considering a career in pathology and for students planning careers in internal medicine, surgery, OB/GYN, ENT, and radiology. The focus of the elective is to provide customized based on the interest of the student, Desk space and a microscope are provided. Students on the elective will (1) learn how patient specimens are received and processed, (2) acquire skills in the microscopic diagnosis of disease through active participation, and (3) learn the role of the cytologist in the care and management of patients. Students will have the opportunity to function as junior house staff managing their own cases with supervision from residents, fellows and attending cytopathologist. There are text books and extensive study sets to permit students to focus on specific areas of interest. The daily schedule for student begins previewing the cytology cases at 8:00 a.m. The student will attend the cytology conference on Wednesday and Thursday. In general, the student will be able to complete sign-out activities by 4:30 p.m.

M60 Path 813 Molecular Pathology
This elective is designed to introduce students to the field of molecular pathology, including established molecular diagnostics and Next Generation Sequencing clinical assays. Students will learn through observation in the laboratory, didactic sessions, resident and fellow presentations, sign out with attending pathologists, and clinical informatics workshops. Students will work with residents/fellows on the rotation and participate as part of the team.

M60 Path 815 OB-GYN Pathology Sub-Internship
The elective stresses the principles of anatomic pathology when applied to operative material in Obstetrics and Gynecology. The sub-intern will examine gross and microscopic specimens in the OB-GYN Pathology Lab and review pertinent literature with a senior pathologist. Ample time will be available for attending regular conferences in OB-GYN and Pathology.

M60 Path 820 Surgical Pathology
This elective is designed to familiarize students with the discipline of surgical pathology and to encourage the development of basic skills in gross pathology and histopathological interpretation. The Laboratory of Surgical Pathology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital receives a broad range of medical biopsy material in addition to specimens derived from the busy surgical subspecialty practices. As a result, this elective is beneficial not only for students considering a career in pathology, but also for students planning careers in internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics-gynecology, pediatrics, radiology, radiation oncology and dermatology. Students on this elective will (1) learn how patient specimens are received and processed, (2) acquire skills in the gross examination and microscopic diagnosis of disease through active participation and (3) learn the role of the pathologist in the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care and management of patients. Students will function as junior house staff managing their own cases with supervision from residents, fellows and attending pathologists. Students may also wish to participate in ongoing research projects within the department as time, and interest, allows. At the end of the rotation the students are required to do a formal case presentation for the residents, fellows and attending staff. The daily schedule for students begins at 8:00 a.m. with morning conference. In general, the student will be able to complete all gross examination and sign-out activities by 4:30 p.m. Students are welcome to stay beyond 4:30 p.m. to participate in any of the academic or other working activities of the division.

M60 Path 825 Introduction to Neuropathology
The course is structured to give the student a full-time immersion in the specialty of neuropathology, including both neurosurgical and neuroautopsy-derived material. There are daily didactic sessions that cover the spectrum of neurological diseases, review gross and microscopic neuro-anatomy, discuss approaches to the diagnosis of nervous system disease, and point out the interrelationships of research to clinical problems. Multiple clinical conferences and diagnostic working sessions complement reading, use of a large microscope divisional study set and project work. Time: 35 to 40 hours per week.

M60 Path 855 Diagnostic Hematopathology
Student electives in diagnostics of diseases of hematopoietic cells aims to foster understanding of acute and chronic leukemias, reactive conditions mimicking malignancies, and lymphomas affecting adults and pediatric populations. This diverse field involves multiple ancillary diagnostic tests such as immunohistochemistry, flow cytometry and genetic testing. This elective will offer medical students an in-depth insight into what goes behind the final pathologic diagnoses in hematologic malignancies before a treatment plan can be executed. This
insight is crucial to understand the importance of correct diagnosis (the answer to the usual “What’s taking pathology so long?” comment) and accurate, timely communication of preliminary and final diagnosis to the clinicians. Under general faculty and fellow supervision, the students will be primarily responsible for handling of their own cases such as bone marrow biopsies, simple lymph node biopsies, ordering the required tests, dictating the final reports and communicating with the clinicians. They will also participate in several conferences per week including hematopathology consensus conference, weekly cytogenetic/molecular correlation conferences, journal club and interdepartmental bone marrow transplant and lymphoma conferences.

M60 Path 860 Clinical Laboratory Medicine
This elective is designed to teach the student how clinical laboratory assays are used in the diagnosis of disease and to understand the quality assurance tools the laboratory utilizes to assure the reliability of tests. The four-week elective includes rotations through laboratories in clinical chemistry, clinical microbiology, transfusion medicine and hematopathology. During the elective the student will have a daily schedule, which includes didactic sessions with senior staff and house staff. Particularly useful clinical skills to be acquired include: morphology of peripheral blood smears and bone marrow biopsies; interpretation of coagulation tests, biomarkers of cardiac damage and serum protein electrophoresis patterns; appropriate use of blood component therapy and therapeutic apheresis; and identification of infectious organisms. Students will attend quality assurance meetings with senior staff, participate in microbiology rounds and present case discussions during this elective.

M60 Path 900 Research Elective - Pathology
Research opportunities may be available. If interested, please contact the Department of Pathology and Immunology.