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# Pathology News

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We publish only that which is submitted! (There are no expense accounts and no reporters) If there is no news about your area that means we haven't received any!



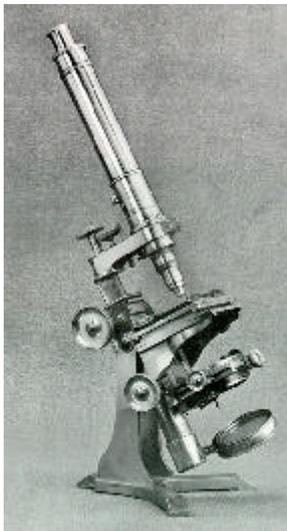
Some of the more creative costumes seen in the Department. (Taken with the new Nikon D1 digital camera at medium resolution)

## DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY AND CLINICAL LABORATORY SERVICES

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY DINNER & DANCE

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2000**

**The Harbour Restaurant  
Portsmouth Olympic Harbour  
Tickets Available Now!**



### **FYI**

#### **Microchip Facility at Richardson Labs**

A new microchip facility has made it's home in Richardson Labs. Located on Richardson 4, the Microchip Facility is

about to open its doors to academic or industrial users who are interested in generating and analyzing data using the powerful new tools known as microarrays or microchips.

Microarrays allow researchers to analyze many thousands of genes in a single experiment. Complementary DNA or oligonucleotide sequences are spotted onto a surface (often glass slides) at specific locations, generating high density arrays containing up to tens of thousands of sequences. These arrays can then be interrogated through hybridization with labelled target nucleic acid from a sample of interest. The labels used are almost always fluorescent, and the use of multiple fluorescent tags in a single experiment allows comparative analyses of multiple independent signals.

One of the most powerful uses of the microarray is expression profiling, which tracks the relative abundance of thousands of mRNAs in a single sample under a variety of conditions, compared to a control sample. In a single experiment, researchers can evaluate the relative expression level of thousands of genes. By tracking all genes that significantly increase their expression in response to a particular stimulus, for instance, such experiments can provide concrete suggestions of novel genes and/or pathways that may be involved in a particular response. Alternatively, such experiments can be used to generate expression profiles for individuals with specific diseases, without a requirement to know the identity of each gene in the array. Detailed analyses of multiple profiles from different patients could lead to the generation of subtly different profiles that may mark diagnostic subcategories. Distinction between these categories might provide important information regarding prognosis or optimal treatment regimes. Other types of experiments that lend themselves to microchip technology would be mutation detection in large genes where many different potential mutations are known. In this case, the presence or absence of hybridization signal to wildtype or mutant signal would correspond with the sequence of the target DNA.

The Microchip Facility will offer a range of services that span the process from the generation of labelled target nucleic acid to analysis of scanned slides. Arrays for a variety of organisms (human, mouse, yeast) at a variety of densities are available through the facility for experimental use. The facility has purchased a sophisticated scanner which uses confocal laser technology to rapidly and accurately scan slides. The output from these scans can be subjected to a variety of analytical tools to get maximal value from the huge amount of data generated from a single experiment. The service will initially be offered to academic researchers on a cost recovery basis.

The microarray facility will initially be engaged in quality control to address issues of inter-experimental reproducibility. Following this period, the facility will be open to researchers. To learn more about the facility and the services available, or to inquire about using the facility, please contact:

Dr. Harriet Feilolter, Dept. of Pathology, Richardson Labs, Queen's University, Kingston  
phone (613) 549 6666 x4184; FAX (613) 548 1356;  
email <hf4@post.queensu.ca>

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### **Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Health Sciences & Vice-President, Research Development, KGH**

A Joint Queen's University/KGH Search Committee has been established to consider the appointment of a successor to Dr. T. Geoffrey Flynn as Associate Dean (Research) in the Faculty of Health Sciences & VP, Research Development at KGH. The composition of the Committee is as follows:

#### KGH Representatives:

Dr. Robert Brison, Associate Professor, Dept. Of Emergency Medicine  
Dr. W. John Marshall, Chief of Staff, KGH  
Dr. Peter Munt, Professor and Head, Department of Medicine  
Dr. Thomas Williams, Member, Board of Directors, KGH

#### Queen's University Representatives:

Dr. Brenda Brouwer, Associate Professor, School of Rehabilitation Therapy

Dr. Elizabeth Eisenhauer, Professor, Department of Oncology  
 Dr. David Lillicrap, Professor, Department of Pathology  
 Dr. Thomas Massey, Professor, Department of Pharmacology  
 and Toxicology  
 Mr. Kerry Rowe, Vice-Principal (Research), Queen's  
 University

Co-Chairs:

Mr. Joseph de Mora, President and CEO, KGH  
 Dr. David M.C. Walker, Dean Faculty of Health Sciences

The terms of reference for this position are available on the Faculty of Health Sciences home page at <http://meds.queensu.ca>. Nominations and letters of application, in the latter case accompanied by a CV and names of three referees, should be directed by Friday, November 24, 2000 to the Co-Chairs of the Committee, co/ Gail Knutson, Staffing Officer, Faculty of Health Sciences, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Botterell Hall.

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### SWEP 2001 is Now Online!!!

NEED HELP WITH SUMMER PROJECTS?  
 KNOW SOMEONE IN YOUR DEPARTMENT  
 WHO COULD USE A HELPING HAND THIS  
 SUMMER? HAVE WE GOT AN OPPORTUNITY  
 FOR YOU!

We offer you ...

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- Easy administration.
- Wage subsidy.

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- Career-related summer jobs.
- Commitment to enhance students' skills.
- Shared funding (if your budget permits).

All you need to do ...

- Complete the online proposal form at <http://www.careers.queensu.ca/facultyframe.htm>
- Proposal DEADLINE: **November 24.**

Please let me know if you have any questions. Liann Joannette, Employment Assistant, Career Services, Queen's University, Tel: 533-6000 ext. 74044

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### Revised Travel Policy - Queen's University

You will notice that the 'Travel and Subsistence' policy has been changed, effective November 1, 2000. Please find below the main changes;

1. Increase the mileage allowance from 27 cents per km to 36 cents per km.
2. Meal allowance rates for travel within Canada remain unchanged at \$45 per day. The average daily meal rate for Ontario Universities is \$41 per day. Outside Ontario the average rate is \$40 per day. The Ontario Public Service receives \$34 per day.
3. Meal allowance rates for travel in the United States is \$45 US per day (clarified).
4. Meal allowance rates for other foreign travel will follow Treasury Board Secretariat Guidelines. A link to the TBS web site will be provided. Meal rates for common destinations have been included in the policy.
5. For electronic tickets we require the itinerary and the boarding pass as supporting documentation.
6. Airline tickets will no longer be site-stamped and reimbursed prior to travelling. If tickets are purchased in advance to obtain preferred fares, the employee may request a travel advance to pay for the ticket.
7. For airfare reimbursement you must submit the ticket stub along with the invoice from the travel agent.

Additional information can be found by following the 'Policy Link' at the following website:

<http://www.notes.queensu.ca/finance.nsf> Look for the Travel and Subsistence document.

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### 5th Annual Clinical Trust Fund Competition

The deadline for submission of applications to the Department of Pathology Clinical Trust Fund competition will be **Friday, January 26th 2001**. A memorandum detailing the terms of reference for this competition will be circulated in the next month or so, but they are unchanged

from last year. Some of the critical elements of this program are as follows. The principal investigator or co-investigator must have a primary appointment in the Kingston Hospitals' Department of Pathology; funds may be made available for projects that can extend from utilization and outcome studies to clinically applied basic research; funds may be requested for supplies, research personnel and research related equipment; travel, graduate student stipends and faculty salaries will not be funded through this program; funds for individual grants will be limited to a maximum of \$10,000.

Application forms for this competition can be obtained from **Barb Latimer** in the Departmental office. The application includes a two page research proposal, a financial statement and the principal investigator's current curriculum vitae.

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### **Queen's University Staff Appreciation Day**

December 7<sup>th</sup> has been set aside as Staff Appreciation Day to officially recognize the contributions that staff make to Queen's reputation of excellence. The format and events for the day will be: a day-long personal/professional development seminar entitled Management Skills for Non Managerial Staff; presentation of the Staff Recognition Awards at the Principal's Reception in Grant Hall; free coffee/tea for staff at the University's food outlets; a raffle. In addition to these events, it is hoped that each department will show their appreciation of their staff in some tangible way on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

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### **Cross-Faculty Teaching Forum**

On December 4 and the morning of December 5 there will be the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Cross-Faculty Teaching Forum on "The Future of Educational Technology at Queen's", with the aim of developing guidelines that can help set the direction for future use of technology to enhance teaching and learning across the university.

We are in the midst of unprecedented technological change affecting the way universities do their work, including the way we teach, and the way students learn. It is vital that Queen's keep abreast of the latest developments in the field and make sensible plans to ensure that, whatever future use we make of educational technology, they are consistent with our primary goal of ensuring the best possible learning experience for our students.

The forum will provide an excellent opportunity to discuss the appropriate use of educational technology at Queen's. Led by a highly regarded expert, Dr. Tony Bates from UBC (author of a recent well-received book on *Managing Technological Change*), we will use the day and a half to become familiar with some of the recent developments in educational technology, discuss recent applications in Canadian universities, and develop guidelines and priorities for future use of technology in teaching and learning at Queen's.

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### **Funding Search Assistance**

The Office of Research Services is offering a short, hands-on training session on Monday, November 20, 2000 to show researchers how to use the Community of Science (COS) funding opportunities database. Despite the name of the database, COS serves all disciplines. Queen's subscription to this service allows all researchers free access to the database which contains over 15,000 entries from Canada and around the world. Opportunities can be searched for in several ways including by discipline, type of funding needed, level of funding needed and desired source of funds. The system is very "user friendly" and the session should not last much more than 1 hour.

Date: Monday, November 20, 2000

Time : 10:30 a.m.

Space : 13 computers spaces

Location : Room 007 Stauffer Library

For more information or to reserve a place in the session, please contact Laurie Vaughan-Evans at 75844.

### Milestones

#### Queen's University

John DaCosta - 30 years

#### KGH

Kim Potter, Microbiology - 10 years

Tracey Rose, Core Lab - 10 years

Wilma Osborne, Microbiology - 20 years

## P ublications

*Promoting, Building and Sustaining a Regional Laboratory Network in a Changing Environment*

**J. David More, Sandip K. SenGupta and Paul N. Manley**

Clinical Leadership & Management Review Vol. 14(5), pp. 205-210, 2000.

## D r. Dexter's Corner

### RECENTLY READ:

#### **Pathologists dismayed by recruiting problems**

With only 18 residency positions available in the entire country, it must be very difficult to enter laboratory medicine specialties such as general pathology, right? Wrong, says Dr. Sandip SenGupta, vice-president of

the Canadian Association of Pathologists. Writing in the latest issue of the *CAP Newsletter*, he said that despite the small number of positions available, one-third of them remained unfilled after the 2000 residency match. In that match, only 10 of 1084 participants listed a laboratory medicine specialty as their first program choice. He warned of a "downward spiral to oblivion" for laboratory medicine unless recruiting, including recruitment of international medical graduates, improves. "Only with an all-out offensive effort can we expect to be successful in stemming the tide and saving the profession for the next generation," he said.

*Reference: CMAJ, 17 October 2000; 163(8)*

### CAN HOPE COME FROM CHAOS?

**Acronym: Word formed from the initial letters of other words**

#### The Trouble with Letters

One wonders if one is not in the know, the inner circle, or the club. Increasingly in the Medical Literature, the senses are assaulted and challenged by random letter sequences which refer, at least in the author's opinion, to a critical study or series upon which the entire hypothesis of the paper is founded. The author is so familiar with this tidbit of alphabet soup that they rarely deign to explain the derivation or define the entity. Faint hope lies in the perusal of the references, for in many, the random clone of letters is merely repeated without explanation, for as one should realize, the reference author is equally familiar with the term and undoubtedly works on the premise that if you do not know what the acronym means, you should not be reading the article.

Even within the hospital walls, the fight continues without much hope for victory. The Medical Records Committee (MRC) with due solemnity would issue an annual list with a crib of approved abbreviations acceptable for use in the medical chart. PERLA, TAHBSO, CAD, COPD were all critically scrutinized and

approved. But outside, in the real world, was extraordinarily fertile soil for the growth and amalgamation of letters. The premise that a "man of letters" reflected an educated, possible academic, individual may be on thin ground. Researchers right and left are the new (wo)men of letters - the more the merrier.

Recent articles in the Lancet, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000, (I wonder if the date has significance?), speak of the important ABCD Study. (Appropriate Blood Pressure Control in Diabetes Study). Another refers to the CAPPP Trial (Captopril Prevention Project). Or what about HOPE (Heart Outcomes Prevention Evaluation) or its associated sub-study MICRO-HOPE (Microvascular Outcomes in Patients with Diabetes Mellitus), or BOA (Bypass Oral Anticoagulant Study)? A poor acronym choice would be the CHAOS Trial. Data, no matter how convincing or elegantly proven, is immediately suspect. Who would believe any treatment protocols derived from work so obviously inferring a mismanaged and poorly disciplined approach to research? (Cambridge Heart Anti-Oxidant Study).

It is distracting, because beyond the knowledge of the content and direction of various study groups, a detailed awareness of acronyms and their translation is now a basic requirement of the reader for, in most cases, intuition will not help.

Unfortunately, it is a fact of life and it is not much good griping about it. We are surrounded by abbreviations and short forms. Our cars are full of them, our computers stuffed with them, science seethes with them, and governments dote on them. In the latter instance, it is a tool of obfuscation, a supplement to that strange dialect of quasi-legalese which accompanies any government form. It is no wonder that there is rumour of a major project to translate such documents to English at a common level of comprehension (Grade 8). First efforts have not been shining, partly because no-one in the

bureaucracy actually speaks, let alone writes in that language.

So we must start our children early with lashings of alphabetized cereals and soups. We must teach that the new "words" do not need vowels and that any random choice of letters must mean something important in our new world (ONW). Alas, I will have to change my dictionary to one of an Atlas of Acronyms.

Perhaps it is only in CHAOS we may find HOPE!

## Clinical News

Karen Harrison has moved from Doran 2 to her spiffy new office in Douglas 432 . Her phone number remains the same as K-4405.

Harriet Feilotter has moved into Doug 304 and Lois Mulligan has moved into Doug 311.

## Grants and Such

Grants have grown to such a huge page of the newsletter that we have split them off into a **separate supplement** to the newsletter. All researchers & faculty will receive the supplement as well as any one else who wants it. Otherwise the rest of the subscribers get everything but.

There are 16 pages for November.

These are available on our web site:

<http://www.path.queensu.ca/pathnews/grants.htm>

## Richardson Research Seminars

2000

Tuesdays at 4:00 pm, Richardson Amphitheatre, Richardson Laboratory

Date	Speaker
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November 7, 2000	Suzie Abu-Abed, PhD Student
November 14, 2000	Dr. Virginia Walker
November 21, 2000	Annie Killoran, MSc Student
November 28, 2000	Dr. Patricia Tonin, McGill Univ.
December 5, 2000	Dr. Moira Glerum, U. of Alberta
December 12, 2000	
December 19, 2000	No seminar

835 King Street West, Kitchener, ON N2G 1G3. Tel: 519-4300 x 2323; Fax: 519-749-4221; e-mail: dimitrios\_divaris@grhosp.on.ca.

### **Stanford University Medical Center**

SUMC seeks an academic neuropathologist for appointment as Associate/Full Professor in the Medical Center Line or the University Tenure Line. The individual will be director of the Neuropathology Service and the Neuropathology Training Program. Candidates must be board certified in Anatomic and Neuropathology (or have suitable equivalent qualifications) and are required to hold a current license to practice medicine in the State of California.

Depending on the candidate's interests and training, the appointment will be made in the Medical Center Line or in the University Tenure Line. Faculty in the MCL are expected to build an outstanding program of clinical care, teaching and clinical research. In the UTL, a prior record of independent clinical or basic research and scholarly contributions is required, since the successful candidate will be expected to establish a well-funded clinical or basic research program. Depending on the interests of the candidate, sign-out responsibilities may also include general surgical pathology. In addition to directing our Neuropathology Training Program, participation in the teaching of other fellows, residents and medical students is required.

Applicants should submit a CV and bibliography, together with a brief description of past and present scholarly interests and accomplishments and a concise statement of plans for future research, as well as their plans for maintaining an outstanding NP Training Program. These and the names of three reference should be sent to Stephen J. Galli, MD, Chair, Department of Pathology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA 94305, USA.

## **U**ndergraduate News

Path 410/824 midterms are over and marked and are available from Barb Saunders in Rich201

## **J**obs Available

### **Grand River Hospital**

General/Anatomical Pathologist, full-time. Working in Grand River Hospital's Department of Laboratories, the successful candidate will join a dynamic team of General Pathologists in a busy practice that includes a broad spectrum of surgical pathology, cytopathology, hematopathology, and autopsy pathology. The pathology group also provides medical leadership for all areas of the clinical laboratory. Licensed to practice medicine in Ontario and certified by the RCPSC, you ideally have subspecialty training or experience. If you are interested please forward your resume to: Dr. D. Divaris, Medical Director of Laboratories, Grand River Hospital, P.O. Box 9056,



The building access system failed on Thursday evening, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2000. Whatever went wrong was not fixable at the time and we moved to a key based access system for the interim time. Today, November 9<sup>th</sup>, a major problem was identified and is being worked on...

With luck the system will be back up and running by the time this newsletter comes back from the printers.

## Network News

### Server stability:

Web Server 11:57am up 33 days

CD Server 11:50am up 23 days

KGHGate 11:50am up 106 days

Would it that our Windows NT servers were so stable!

### Email Traffic:

Remember when I used to post the amount of email in and out of the department for the last month?

Well, I haven't done that for over a year or so and thought I would revisit it.

October 1996: 3976

October 1998: 9388

October 1999: 18213

October 2000: 21662 pieces of email in and out, and in general, they are getting bigger as more and more people send more and larger attachments.

### Richardson Labs Access System

Date sent: Mon, 6 Nov 2000 18:11:54

### New Access to Fulltext Electronic Journals and Newspapers Available to Queen's

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Today, it is increasingly rare to find a mainstream journal publisher without a website purporting to provide access to an online version of that publisher's print journals. The "promise" is often misleading, however: institutional access to electronic fulltext almost always remains restricted to organizations whose libraries either (a) already subscribe to the print version, or (b) have been able to purchase a subscription specifically to the electronic version of the title.

Given this confusing situation, how can Queen's faculty, students and staff quickly ascertain whether a particular journal is available, online, to members of the Queen's community? and, if found, jump directly to the appropriate website?

In the best of all possible worlds, this information would be consolidated in the library catalogue -- and Queen's Libraries certainly aims to achieve that goal. In the meantime, however, while our library catalogue is in

transition from "the old" to "the new" computer systems, the Libraries are pleased to announce a substitute database consisting exclusively of links to Queen's-accessible e-journals and newspapers.

This revised "Electronic Journals & Newspapers" website enables you to locate titles quickly, by means of one or more of the following search keys:

- \* journal or newspaper title (either exact title, or keywords from the title)
- \* broad subject category
- \* publisher and/or scholarly society
- \* "online series" title or database which publishes the electronic journal/newspaper (for example, Project Muse or Education Abstracts with Full-text or IOP Journals, etc.)

Currently, there are 1280 journals and 44 newspapers linked to the website; more titles are being added each week.

To use this new resource:

1. Go to the Library Homepage at: <http://library.queensu.ca/>
2. Select the link: Electronic journals
3. Fill in the appropriate search box or boxes, and click on "Submit Query".
4. Tips for keyword searching in the database are found under the "Help" button.

For further information:

Contact the reference librarians in any of the Queen's Libraries.

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Liz Fox  
 Electronic Services Librarian  
 Queen's University Libraries  
 c/o Stauffer Library, 101 Union Street  
 KINGSTON, Ontario K7L 5C4 Canada  
 TEL: (613) 533-6000 ext 75569  
 FAX: (613) 533-6362

EMAIL: [foxe@post.queensu.ca](mailto:foxe@post.queensu.ca)

**Article Submissions**

SUBMISSION DATE: Pathology News will be mailed to all faculty, housestaff, graduate students, and anyone who requests it on the Friday following the first Monday of the month. The next deadline date for submission will be *Monday December 4th*

**Send items (in order of preference) by: 1) email, 2) floppy disk, 3) paper mail, or 4) FAX.**