Letter From Our Chairman

Dear Friends:

As the holiday season is upon us, we would like to share the latest Pathology Department stories with you in this newsletter.

2020 will go down in history as a most unusual year. Despite the challenges, we continue to work towards our goal of building a world-class pathology department. You will see how our team of experts stays at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19. We have graduated trainees who are now taking care of patients and carrying out cutting-edge research to find the next cure. We have added new members to our team who bring novel technologies and new perspectives. I hope you will find the stories interesting and inspirational and needless to say, our talented colleague Susan Reeves deserves the credit for pulling it all together.

The pandemic will be behind us before long and life will be back to normal. I look forward to the day when we can get together in person. We welcome you to visit the department whenever possible. In the meantime, please visit our website (https://pathology.duke.edu) to learn the latest news and events and do not hesitate to contact us to share your personal stories.

Jiaoti Huang, MD PhD
Duke Clinical Labs at Center of COVID Response

Celebrating over 100,000 COVID-19 tests processed
Thank you to all of our team members who made this extraordinary achievement possible.

“...A shout out to...our Laboratory team. They've done a phenomenal job under Mike Datto and Chris Polage and the whole team’s leadership there to create a testing capacity that didn’t exist before, and to do it very very well and very quickly, and with an incredible turnaround time...”

Thomas Owens, MD
President, Duke University Hospital

The word “challenging” does not seem enough to encompass the experience of the Duke Clinical Laboratories in 2020. The daunting tasks faced by, and the superb accomplishments of, Michael Datto MD PhD, Medical Director and Associate Vice President, Duke Health Clinical Laboratories; Chris Polage MD, Director of Clinical Microbiology; and their team are ones to document for history. The Clinical Labs became the central linchpin for fighting COVID19 at Duke, and the logistics of testing, personnel, safety, supplies all had to be invented on the fly. The job performed by Clinical Labs teams has been heroic not only for our hospital but for the community and the state.

The Clinical Labs were part of the planning from the start. Dr. Datto notes, “We are part of the senior leadership team of the health system and helped create Duke’s COVID response. Labs were not just involved in, but in many ways were driving the discussion about infection rates, the trajectory of the pandemic, and testing strategies and capacity.” Duke created the Lab COVID Emergency Response Team, which met daily to address the constant challenges. Datto reports, “Chris Polage’s scientific and clinical insights have been the key to our success. He has done an amazing job of planning and executing our in-lab testing approach.”

Other key members of the Response Team include:

Bruce Lobaugh (Administrative Director, Duke Health Labs and Director of the DUHS Point of Care testing program)
Chad McCall (Director, Hematology Laboratory Services)
Corrie Simons (Manager, Clinical Microbiology)
Diana Cardona (Associate Director, Duke Health Laboratories)
Diane Butler (Administrative Specialist)
Judy Fleming (Director, Quality Management)
Kari Ryan (Director, Business Operations)
Kathryn Winston (Manager, Referral Laboratory, Client Services)
Kathy Grant, Mary Smith (Global Operations, Operations Director AP/Operations Director CP)
Mark Lee (Associate Director, Clinical Microbiology, Lead for COVID Assay Development)
Nancy Henshaw (Associate Director, Clinical Microbiology)
Penda Jones (Supervisor, Referral Laboratory)
Raj Dash (Director, Laboratory Information Systems)
Rita Winsor (Chief of Laboratory HR)
Tyler Welch (Diagnostic Services Lead, Performance Services)

“Also essential to our success have been the members of the Microbiology Laboratory, Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, Referral Laboratory, Specimen Management, and every tech who stood at the bench and did the work to keep our health system open and to care for our patients in the face of the fear and uncertainty of the raging pandemic,” Datto states.

The Clinical Labs were also part of the success of Duke University’s Fall Semester, which was held on campus. “Our labs did the confirmatory testing for the positive pools. The Duke Vaccine Institute did the pooled testing in their CLIA laboratory. They are a fantastic team and one good outcome from the pandemic was bringing our groups together. We are fortunate that the positivity rate on campus was very low last semester. The students were good about being safe and the testing ensured rapid quarantine of anyone who became positive.”

Datto and the Labs have also been at the forefront of local and state issues. “Early in the pandemic our Duke team went to several local skilled nursing facilities to do outbreak work ups. In that setting same-day turnaround time is required for testing, and the only way that could truly be achieved for those patients was through our labs.” And in April, Datto was called on to co-chair Governor Cooper’s COVID19 Testing Surge Working Group for the state of North Carolina.

Testing is ongoing, and the challenges have not ceased. “Supply chain remains an issue for certain platforms. With unlimited supplies, we could run 3,000 – 4,000 tests/day. With our currently supplies, we can only reliably run 50% of that. We are exploring options to again increase capacity.”

In the midst of all of this, the Clinical Labs established a clinical research center (CRC) to enable and lead in COVID research. “The Duke Clinical Laboratory CRC’s mission is to leverage our scientific and medical knowledge, state of the art operations, and millions of clinical lab specimens to deliver tomorrow’s health care today— Over the past 6 months, we have banked over 10,000 residual clinical samples for future research. I truly believe that these specimens hold the key to fully understanding the virus and how it affects patients – why some do better and some do worse or die. With this understanding will come better outcomes and saved lives in this and future pandemics.”

Datto says, “I am thankful to be part of our Duke Health Clinical Laboratory Team. We have so many very talented and dedicated laboratorians at Duke. I cannot imagine facing this pandemic with a better group of people.”

We’ll have more to report in our Annual 2020 Magazine: stay tuned!

Dr. Datto has been the spokesperson for the Labs during Friday Afternoon Messages with Dean Mary Klotman. The Labs reached their 100,000th test in August.

“It is impossible to test away the pandemic, but it is possible to mitigate risk.”

Dr. Michael Datto
Celebrating Our Graduating Residents and Fellows

Although the Covid-19 pandemic did not allow us to gather at the Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club for our Annual Graduation and Awards Ceremony, we celebrated our outgoing residents and fellows on the evening of June 12, 2020 with a Zoom gathering hosted by Dr. Cummings (in his office), provided dinners to our graduates at home (thanks to The University Club), and had a full traditional program with speakers and awards.

The celebratory evening was hosted by Department Chair Dr. Jiaoti Huang and Residency Program Director Dr. Thomas J. Cummings. The Keynote Speaker was our own Dr. David Howell.

2020 Graduation Awards:
The Edward Bossen Team Player Award: Rhonda Mittenzwei, MD; Jake Maule, MD, PhD
The William Bradford Resident Teaching Award: Andrew Dunn, MD
The Bernard Fetter Teaching Award: Michael Huening, MD, PhD
The Christine Hulette Award for Teaching Excellence: Jill Browning, MD
The Fred and Janet Sanfilippo Resident Research Award: Rachel Jug MB BCh BAO; Richard Davis, MD, MSPH

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 RESIDENT GRADUATES ON THEIR FELLOWSHIPS

Jill Browning: Surgical Pathology and Dermatopathology, Duke University
Bruce Leckey, Jr.: Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology, University of Pittsburgh; Dermatopathology, Mayo Clinic
Michael Schild: Gastrointestinal Pathology and Cytopathology, Duke University
Siddhartha Sen: Molecular Pathology, Baylor University

Outgoing fellows included:
Janice Ahn
Andrew Dunn
Rachel Jug

Thanks to the countless individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support our trainees, and congratulations again to all of our outstanding graduates!
Congratulations to the Pathologists’ Assistants
CLASS OF 2020

In order to finish the program, students in the Pathologists’ Assistant Program must present a talk about a case they worked on, including the disease description and progression, findings, and final diagnosis, all illustrated with photos they have taken of gross and microscopic specimens. This year’s talks were presented on July 16th, with a 2020 twist: a minimal student group masked and distanced in the Markee Lecture Hall, and the rest of the audience watching on Zoom. Although we missed the usual social joy of the occasion, the presentations were excellent and the added bonus was that so many people could “attend” and experience the occasion who would otherwise not be able to attend in person. (Download Seminar Program)

Congratulations to all the students and to Assistant Director Pamela Vollmer and Program Director Rex Bentley MD for the herculean efforts to accomplish the training and bring this year to a close. And thanks to Steve Conlon, whose assistance with the photography class and presentation coordination was paramount.
Welcome to Our New Faculty

We are pleased to have welcomed six new faculty to our team in 2020. Stay tuned for more about them in the Pathology Report 2020 Annual Magazine.

Chelsea Landon, DVM PhD
Mathias Leblanc, DVM PhD
Beth Shaz, MD
Chanjuan Shi, MD PhD
Randall Reynolds, DVM MS
Rebecca Varley, MD

Graduate Program Launches a New PhD

This year has provided many opportunities for “firsts,” and Pakawat (Nick) Chongsathidkiet MD PhD was the first graduate student in Pathology to defend his PhD thesis on Zoom on April 1. April Fools’ Day happily did not contain any surprises, and Dr. Chongsathidkiet says, “I was honored to be the first student in our department to graduate via this platform.”

He is now applying for neurosurgery residency while working as a postdoctoral associate in the Duke Brain Tumor Immunotherapy Program, designing, conducting, and overseeing experiments, conducting data analysis, and mentoring students.

“I must thank everyone in our program for the immense support,” Dr. Chongsathidkiet says. “I feel that the PhD from the Department of Pathology truly prepared me to pursue my dream of becoming a world-class physician scientist!”

Our New Private Diagnostic Clinic Representative

Danielle Elliott Range, MD has been elected as the new PDC at-large board member for the Department of Pathology. Dr. Range currently serves as the Associate Medical Director of Cytopathology Division.

The Private Diagnostic Clinic (PDC) is the physician practice of Duke Health. It is one of the first and the largest academic multi-specialty group practices in the United States. It is a member-led organization with 1,750 predominantly physician members, and is governed by a Board of Managers. The PDC Board of Managers comprises the chairs of the clinical departments, at-large members from each clinical department and three community practices, the PDC president and executive director. The Board has responsibility for all strategic decisions, fiduciary activities and policy development.
New House Staff for 2020-2021

Thomas J. Cummings MD, Professor of Pathology and Residency Program Director, is pleased to announce we had a successful match and filled five PGY-1 positions for the AP/CP class of 2020. Our new residents are (L to R in photos):

Megan Lee MD, University of Missouri School of Medicine
Kristen Logan MD, University of South Carolina School of Medicine
Kasey McCollum MD MPH, Wayne State University School of Medicine
Bangchen Wang MD PhD, University of Nebraska Medical Center
Karolina Woroniecka MD PhD, Duke University School of Medicine

“The 2020 academic year is off to a great start,” Cummings says, “and I applaud our Residency Program Coordinator Ms. Debbie Andersen and all the staff, residents, and faculty who dedicate their time and effort to match season.”

Our fellowship positions have been filled as well. ACGME Fellows include:

John Bonnewell MD, Medical Microbiology; University of Louisville
Jesus Adrian Chavez MD, Hematopathology; Universidad La Salle
Jennifer Crimmins MD, Dermatopathology; University of North Carolina
Rochelle Hardie, MBBS, Medical Microbiology; University of West Indies, Mona
Jing Lu MD PhD, Cytopathology; Zhejiang Medical University
Christopher O’Conor MD PhD, Cytopathology; University of North Carolina
Patricia Pittman MD MBA, Neuropathology; St. Matthews College of Medicine - Grand Cayman

Non-ACGME Fellows include:

Jill Browning MD, Surgical Pathology; Louisiana State University School of Medicine In Shreveport
Catherine Luedke MD, Surgical Pathology; Baylor College of Medicine
Michael Schild DO, GI Surgical Pathology; Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine

Check out our website pages to read our residents' bios, and see the fellows' photos on the next page.

pathology.duke.edu
New Pathologists’ Assistants Students
The new first-years have begun their two-year program. Orientation was on August 6 and 7, and they started classes on August 10. Welcome to Duke Pathology!

Adriana (Gigi) Dasilva
Emily Flingos
Jessica McMahon
Annette Phan
Kendel Reed
Ann Marie Scazzero
Stephanie Shulkowski
Kimberly (Kim) Thomas
New Students Expand the Graduate Program

The Pathology PhD Program grew larger and deeper this year with the addition of seven new impressive students. We are excited to be able to introduce them to you here.

Miriam Dilts completed her undergrad in Physiology & Developmental Biology at Brigham Young University. There she researched developmental redox biology and spent summers doing full-time research internships in translational work. At Duke, she looks forward to furthering her experience in translational biology and therapeutic development, and she is currently doing rotations. In her free time, she enjoys reading science fiction novels, hiking, and rock climbing. She looks forward to exploring Durham when the pandemic winds down!

Michael Kim came to Duke from Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine where he was working with Dr. James J. Yoo on kidney and muscle regeneration. Michael graduated with a BA in Chemistry from Wake Forest University. His primary research interest is pathology of urologic diseases. Michael loves watching sports and is a big fan of soccer and basketball. He is currently doing rotations.

Jennifer Liu received a BS in Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology from University of California, Santa Cruz. Prior to coming to Duke, Jen did fungal biology research at Brown University and clinical research at City of Hope National Medical Center, where she worked with older adults with breast cancer. In her free time, Jen likes to read and go on hikes. She is currently doing rotations.

Xingru Ma received a BS in Neuroscience from William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Her previous research involved the neurobiological mechanism of the breathing rhythm and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). Currently, her primary research interests are interactions between the nervous system and the immune system. In her free time, she likes doing Yoga and baking. Xingru is currently doing rotations.

Xanne Miggelbrink is originally from the Netherlands but has lived in the United States on and off for about 7 years. Before coming to Duke to pursue her PhD, she obtained her Bachelor’s degree in Biomedical Sciences from Leiden University (in the Netherlands) and her medical degree from Utrecht University (also in the Netherlands). During her medical training, she spent a year in a lab at Boston Children’s Hospital, when she realized she wanted to pursue research. Xanne is currently working in Dr. Fecchi’s lab on the role of CD4 T cells in anti-tumor immunity. When she is not in the lab, she loves reading a good book, hiking, and watching various tv shows, or sport events, with a secret passion for Christmas movies!

Tara Richbourg holds a BS in Biochemistry from Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina. Her research experience at Clemson was in the department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering where she worked on analyzing ER stress and the unfolded protein response in highly producing Chinese Hamster Ovary cells. Her hobbies include reading, gaming, playing piano, and playing with her cat, Georgia. Tara is currently doing rotations.

Before joining the School of Medicine’s MD/PhD program and joining the Pathology Department at Duke, Luke Wachsmuth was working as a Cancer Research Training Award Fellow at the NIH researching the mechanisms of immune modulating therapy administered after bone marrow transplant. Prior to that, and immediately after graduating from the University of Georgia, Luke had been at the University of Texas at Austin working as a research assistant studying undergraduate science teaching and learning. Now he is working in Dr. Peter Fecchi’s lab studying mechanisms of immune suppression in glioblastoma multiforme, i.e., how a tumor in the brain causes patients to have weakened immune responses. After graduating from Duke, he hopes to complete a residency program and eventually practice clinical medicine and conduct research at an academic medical institution. When he is not in lab he likes to cook things from NYT Cooking and work in the yard!
Duke Pathology has produced many chairs in the Pathology discipline, and now there’s one more: Alice Coogan, MD is now chair of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology at Vanderbilt. Dr. Coogan made time to tell us about her journey and the people who helped along the way. Congratulations Dr. Coogan!

“I came to Duke for AP/CP residency in July of 1988. I did my cytology fellowship in 1993 and joined the faculty in 1994. I was awarded the Bernard Fetter Teaching Award in 1996, and served as the associate director of the residency program. I left Duke in 1997 to join the faculty at Vanderbilt.

I was originally interested in Ob/Gyn as a medical student and then I married a medical school classmate. He was going into surgery, which at the time was every other night call and OB residency call was every third night. I realized that we would only get to see each other every sixth night. One of the other rotations that I liked was my surgical pathology elective and I thought I could focus on gynecologic pathology. It was the best decision that I ever made. I love the field of pathology.

My maternal grandfather was a pathologist at Vanderbilt before he became the chair of pathology at the University of Minnesota. Unfortunately, he died my second year of medical school, so he never knew that I ended up not only going into pathology but I had the same job as he did (director of the pathology course) when I first came to Vanderbilt. My father-in-law was also a pathology chair at East Tennessee State University.

I chose Duke for my training for the high volume of diverse and complex cases and the excellent faculty. My interest in gynecologic pathology and the patient contact when performing fine needle aspiration biopsies led me to choose cytology. I learned a lot from Dr. William Johnston and Dr. Lester Layfield.

Allan Tucker* was one of the most inspirational people that I have ever worked with. He was a fantastic teacher and always had a great sense of humor. Marcia Gottfried was another great mentor. Rex Bentley* was always there to look at cases with me and I looked to him as a role model of calm, effective leadership. There are so many others. When I took over as interim chair at Vanderbilt right before the pandemic, I quickly realized what an incredible network there is of leaders around the country who have Duke connections. I reached out to Tom Montine* (Pathology chair, Stanford) and Mike Borowitz* (Executive Deputy Director, Johns Hopkins), Gary Procop* (new CEO of the American Board of Pathology) and David Howell* (former interim chair at Duke) with questions at various times during my interim year and every one of them was incredibly helpful.

At the most recent APC meeting I participated in a mentoring session for new chairs with Fred Sanfilippo* and Stan Robboy, and have been on FDA calls where Tim Stenzel* was answering all the testing questions from around the country. I am lucky enough to have my office right next to Kay Washington*, recipient of the CAP Lifetime Achievement Award, who has always been available for advice (and for reminiscing about our time at Duke). The number of people who were at Duke while I was there and are now in leadership positions in pathology is amazing. I am so grateful for this network.

A few memories of my time at Duke that spring to mind include the “stylish” white polyester uniforms that we were required to wear; the abundance of snacks in the surgical pathology lab that were used to lure the surgeons in so we could get good clinical information on our cases; the cytotechnologists standing at a podium in the sign out room formally presenting the cases to Dr. Johnston; and the time my intern year when I came in really early to review my slides and surprised Dr. Fetter, who was brushing his teeth in the gross room sink in surgical pathology (leading me to wonder if he maybe lived there).
I am sure that I am remembered most for the fact that I had five children in four years during my residency and fellowship, including a set of triplets. When I was in my fellowship, I had a 3-year-old and a one-year-old and I found out that I was pregnant with triplets. The department was very supportive. When I was put on bed rest in the hospital for 4 weeks, they moved a microscope into my hospital room so I could sign out cases and not have that time count as maternity leave. When the triplets were born 2 months early, I had 5 children under the age of four, with four of them under the age of two. My husband was a surgery resident and was still doing every other night call. One day after I was discharged from my 4 weeks in the hospital, my two-year-old aspirated a piece of candy and was taken to the operating room to have it removed. On that day we had three babies in the NICU and one toddler in the operating room! We really got to know Duke hospital. Despite that chaotic beginning, the kids all turned out great. They are 30, 28 and the triplets are 26 years old and all are happy, healthy, and gainfully employed. We are so grateful to Duke Hospital and both the Pathology and Orthopaedic surgery departments for all the support during that challenging time.

I joined the faculty at Vanderbilt in 1997, practicing cytology and surgical pathology, and became the course director for the pathology course. Education was a big focus of my early career and I won several teaching awards including the Jack Davies Award for teaching in basic science, the Vanderbilt medical school faculty award for teaching in a small group setting, the residency teaching award in pathology, and the Shovel Award (the highest teaching award in the medical school). I was also the medical director of the cytology lab. In 2002, I retired from pathology to stay at home with my children who were in middle school at the time. In 2009, I rejoined the faculty as the medical director of cytology. I started a cytology fellowship and was the fellowship director for 10 years. I have been involved in the Vanderbilt Medical School admissions process since 2002 and served as the faculty chair of admissions from 2012-2018. I became the Vice Chair and executive medical director for Anatomic Pathology in 2018. After a period as interim chair, I became the permanent chair starting in December this year, the first female chair of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology at Vanderbilt.

My career path is non-traditional to say the least. I never imagined that I would one day be a department chair, mainly because I had never seen anyone like me in that role. I was extremely lucky that there were people in leadership roles both at Duke and Vanderbilt who were willing to think outside the box in terms of who could be a leader. I would tell trainees to pursue what you love and never underestimate how far you can go.

And, as I learned from Duke Pathology, always put the patient at the center of anything you do in pathology.”

(*All former residents in Duke Pathology)
**Gift from the Hackels Grows Fellowship Opportunities**

The Hackel Fellowship will help ensure the training of young pathologists for years to come.

Donald B. Hackel, MD, and his wife, Irene Hackel, were part of the fabric of Duke University Medical Center for decades. They made an extraordinary and lasting contribution to the Department of Pathology to bolster a fellowship endowment, named for Dr. Hackel (who died in 1994) but honoring both him and his wife (who passed away on August 18, 2020).

Dr. Hackel was Professor of Pathology at Duke from 1960 to 1991, during which time he established himself as a world-class cardiac pathologist, investigator in the field of myocardial ischemia, and educator of the first order. Although he retired in 1991, several current Duke faculty members and a larger group at other institutions had the benefit of his teaching and friendship and remember him with great fondness and respect. His humility, humanity, quiet dignity, and kindness were a model worthy of emulation by any physician.

Irene Hackel was a pillar of support for her husband, family, and community, but also for the Duke School of Medicine, particularly through her deep involvement with the Nearly New Shoppe, a thrift store created and operated by the Duke Faculty Wives. Through the sale of items donated by faculty members, the Nearly New Shoppe provided affordable clothing and household necessities for Durham residents while generating millions of dollars in scholarship funding for Duke medical students.

In 1989, just before Dr. Hackel’s retirement, the Donald B. Hackel Fellowship in Cardiovascular Pathology was established, supporting a year of training in pathology for Duke medical students following their second year of medical school. The fellowship was partially capitalized by a generous charitable gift annuity (CGA) created by Dr. and Mrs. Hackel. The CGA provided guaranteed lifetime income for the couple until Mrs. Hackel’s passing, with the remaining balance allocated to the Fellowship. As a result, once the investment account is liquidated, more than a quarter-million dollars will be added to the endowment. Extensive additional funds were provided by the Departments of Pathology, Medicine, and Surgery; and through individual contributions from dozens of donors. Since 2004, when the endowment had grown to the level necessary to begin supporting trainees, the fellowship has provided third-year research funding for five students, three of whom have started or are planning careers as pathologists. This year, Hackel Fellowship funding has been allocated for two additional students pursuing an extra post-sophomore fellowship year in pathology.

The Department of Pathology is grateful to Donald and Irene Hackel; their children Connie Katz, Dr. Andrea Hackel, and Richard Hackel; and extended family members, including nephew Bill Lebow, for their generous support. The Hackel Fellowship will help ensure the training of young pathologists for years to come.

Thanks to their thoughtful planning and generosity, the Hackel’s legacy will live on at Duke through the fellowship fund. If you would like to learn more about CGAs or other strategic giving vehicles, please reach out to Morgan Pope, Director of Development for the Department of Pathology, at 919-451-5093 or morgan.pope@duke.edu.
Diversity Group is Formed

The Duke Pathology Diversity and Inclusion Group has been focusing on the areas of departmental culture, representation within the department, and community outreach. Recent efforts include:

- Inviting grand rounds speakers to discuss diversity and inclusion topics, including the recent talks on cancer disparities.
- Developing opportunities for outreach to students from elementary school through medical school to encourage interest in science and pathology among a diverse group of students
- Creating a library of anti-racism books

If you are interested in participating in the working group, have a suggestion for a grand rounds speaker, are interested in participating in our outreach efforts in our local schools, or would like to check out a book or donate a book to the library, please contact Pam Harris or Allison Hall.

Thanks to Kelly Macklin’s efforts we have a supply of anti-racism wearables (badge reels and pins). If you are interested in one, please see Rene McKinney (Green Zone, 2nd Floor, Room # 215M).

Rotation at the VA
As part of the rotation at the Durham VA Medical Center across the street from Duke Hospital, second-year resident Monica Abdelmalak MD and Pathologists' Assistant Aaron Wallace cut frozen sections.

** Don’t miss viewing the 2019 Annual Magazine, 48 pages packed with tales of old friends and new ventures. **
The Smiling Faces Behind the Masks
Captured in the halls of Pathology in April 2020 by Steve Conlon
We have such a rich history in Duke Pathology, and we’ll share photos we find to bring back some memories!

J. Allan Tucker, MD, mentor to Dr. Alice Coogan and many others during the 1980’s and early 1990’s, is shown here in 1991 just before he left Duke for the University of South Alabama, where he served as Chair of Pathology for more than a decade. You will also find his photo on the Chief Residents framed gallery, from his 1984-85 service. Dr. Tucker touched the lives of countless peers and students as a master teacher, fast friend, and inexhaustible fount of humor, even in times of tribulation. His indomitable spirit is still part of the fabric of our department.

Waxing Eloquent Dr. Sarah Larson Jelliffe, a former Duke Pathology Resident, provides instruction in mustache care to a group of faculty following a 2010 Grand Rounds presentation by Dr. David Howell (L-R: Drs. Dan Kenan, Sarah Larson Jelliffe, Rex Bentley, David Howell, Anand Lagoo, and Pat Buckley). Dr. Howell reprised this talk and was also the speaker for the 2020 Residents Graduation when COVID restrictions prevented an invited speaker from traveling to Durham.

The quietude of the winter months often prompts a season of reflection as we await the vibrant arrival of springtime.

As such, I look back on the numerous ways philanthropy has directly impacted the Department of Pathology and am filled with gratitude for the many individuals who choose to support our tripartite mission of research, education, and clinical care. One such gift is an extraordinary legacy commitment given by Dr. and Mrs. Donald Hackel, which will bolster the existing Donald B. Hackel Fellowship in Cardiovascular Pathology. I hope you were able to read the wonderful article announcing this gift earlier in the newsletter! Each and every contribution is an investment, and we are honored that so many alumni, faculty, and friends choose to give back to Duke. I join our chair Dr. Jiaoti Huang in offering our sincere gratitude for your trust and generosity.

As we look ahead to 2021, you may be wondering how a projected change in presidential administration may impact your philanthropic planning. My expert colleagues in Duke’s Office of Gift Planning looked at Joe Biden’s tax proposals and assessed the ways in which they could affect charitable planning. They have succinctly summarized the proposals along with their implications in two detailed articles published on the Giving to Duke Blueprints Blog: “5 Biden tax proposals: Understanding potential changes to income and capital gains taxes” and “3 (more) Biden tax proposals: Understanding potential changes to gift and estate taxes.” If you have any questions about these topics or year-end giving, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me for a conversation.

Wishing you and your families health and happiness in the New Year!

With gratitude,
Morgan P. Pope, Director of Development
919-451-5093
morgan.pope@duke.edu
*** Don’t miss viewing the 2019 Annual Magazine, 48 pages packed with tales of old friends and new ventures. ***

HUGE THANKS to the many people whose help was essential to creating this Newsletter, including Anne Buckley, Steve Conlon, David Howell, and Jiaoti Huang. You’re the best! -Susan Reeves

CONTACT US at pathnews@duke.edu and connect with us on Twitter and Facebook.

Check out our Departmental blog (PathBlog), the Graduate Program Blog (GradBlog), and the flow of Professional News at the Website.