

UBC Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Departmental meeting minutes

April 29, 2013 at 2:00pm

Videoconferencing sites:

VGH - Taylor Fidler Auditorium

UBC – LSC Room 1312 CMR

Children's and Women's Hospital – CSB Room V2-222

St. Paul's Hospital – Room 4/5

Royal Columbian Hospital – 074

Surrey Memorial Hospital – Room 1752

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Mike Allard at 2:31pm.

The Agenda was circulated.

Minutes from the November 27, 2012 meeting was circulated and approved, all in favor.

Reports:

Department Head – Dr. Mike Allard (ppt slides)

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Finances and Budget

In the new financial cluster model for the Faculty of Medicine, we are located in Cluster 1 (with Cellular and Physiological Sciences, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Psychiatry, Centre for Blood Research, Biomedical Research Centre, and Centre for Brain Health). Alison Kim is our Associate Finance Director who reports to Evie Mendel, who reports to Ian Burgess and, ultimately, Pierre Ouillet. Functional details, including control of our finances we will have is unclear but will become clearer as things evolve over time.

The Department is now responsible for financial aspects once covered centrally and will be responsible for any overruns in the funds that have been put into the General Purpose Operating budget.

Funds from a retired person's F slot will be returned to the Department 100%. These funds are now no longer dedicated exclusively to salary.

There will be a "tax" placed on academic units to support certain activities in the Dean's Office, largely because the Academic Reserve is disappearing. It is not certain what the tax will be, possibly about 2% or \$600,000 a year in total. We guesstimate that we will be responsible for at least \$50,000.

Currently, there is a slight surplus in the departmental budget but the surplus will disappear very quickly, largely because our total salary commitments are larger than overall amount of funds we receive, at least for the next 6 years. If we don't make changes in our finances, we will run into a deficit and it's unclear what that means for us as a department.

Other Items

Maureen Barfoot retired in October and Sandy Liu has replaced her temporarily. We anticipate having a new director in the not too distant future.

Carol Park is retiring at the end of June, which will be a huge loss to the Department. We are currently recruiting for a new director for the BMLSc program. Notably, Carol has been the BMLSc Program Director since the early 90's.

Pathology Day this year is on May 24th and will be held at the Paetzold Education Centre at VGH.

The *Pathology Newsletter* is a great way to highlight accomplishments and awards received by our Department members. The Awards and Recognition Committee (Committee) of the department has been doing a wonderful job in facilitating nominations for faculty members enabling them to receive awards, not only in the department, but also in the Faculty of Medicine and beyond. As Chair of the Committee, Helene Cote has really been extraordinary. Her passion and commitment to the process of nominating our faculty members for awards is worthy of our thanks and gratitude. The other members of the Committee also deserve our thanks. There have been a number of department members who have received awards for their excellence in many different categories arising as a result of nominations headed by this committee.

Teaching Dossier Update – Dr. Niamh Kelly, Simon Dee and Debbie Bertanjoli

Teaching Dossier link: www.td.pathology.ubc.ca

Username is your email, your secret code is: ubc

For academic faculty, this is how it will be brought forward about evaluating teaching. It will be more user friendly and easily updatable. Not only for re-appointment process, if we are successful in achievement for an academic funding plan, we will be required to keep track of everything we do and it will be a good way to keep track.

There will be a new system connecting a scheduling system to generate different reports to all contractors. You will be able to write a CV, teaching dossier could be part of their big plan. For entering the data, will someone be able to input data for clinicians? It is a lot of extra work. Can a course coordinator put it into the system and update it for clinicians? Yes. It's not required for clinical faculty yet.

Might have repetition with the CV's. There are in things in TD where you can put more things. A teaching summary goes to Dean's office, to be promoted, you need to be active in teaching within your department, TD will be an important piece to prove that you are teaching and are an effective teacher (e.g. evaluations by students and peers) that aren't necessarily in the TD. The CV will be integrated into the system and are currently in phase 1.

Program and Committee Reports:

MD Undergraduate Education Program – Dr. Jason Ford

There will be a renewal of MD Undergraduate program at UBC. As of Sept 2014, the entering class begins with a re-made first year. Their education will happen in small groups rather than a whole class. They will be physically placed outside of hospitals. The FoM put a pilot out at RCH, pathologists asked to teach at RCH for the whole block, and the students have greatly enjoyed this making it a big success. It is unknown if this pilot project will continue next year.

Curriculum renewal – how is pathology going to be involved in the curriculum? We are in the middle of trying to draft a curriculum schedule and are currently drafting topics. There is a plan for how this all will proceed. The role in Pathology will mostly be similar to what it is now within the first 2 years. Exit competencies for graduating students, (obtaining autopsy consent, obtain blood transfusion consent etc), will happen in years 3 and 4 and will have to be submitted.

A lot of people don't want to change the curriculum.

Pat Doyle – What is the effect on PBL? What is the spiral approach?

Jason Ford- PBL will change to CBL or case based learning. Students start the day with small group/didactic teaching and are given problem to do a case based learning to encourage practice after receiving instruction.

Spiraling consists of the 1st year students receiving a topic and then revisiting this topic in second year. The model will be to mix it up so students are always exposed to different topics.

BMLSc – Dr. Carol Park (no report)

Graduate Studies – Dr. Haydn Pritchard and Dr. Helene Cote

Our program remains strong and healthy with no major challenges or issues.

1. Recruitment

- a. 20 new students have entered the program this year (see attached list)

2. Courses

- a. Pathology 500. Part A is running well under the day to day supervision of our senior student TA, Alon Hendel. We have used several senior and recently graduated PhD students to assist with lectures. Small group student sessions have been well received by the students and facilitate team work as well as meeting the course objectives. We have also collaborated with the PharmD program (Path 548Q) to run some joint sessions and the students are attending lectures as disease specific electives.
- b. Pathology 547 – techniques in molecular biology. As usual this will run next session and remains well subscribed with the vast majority of students electing to take this course even though is no longer a required course.
- c. Pathology 535/635 – no update

3. Comprehensive examinations.

- a. Several students have successfully completed their comp exam and advanced to candidacy. The success rate is 100% and the mock grant applications are of high quality.
- b. Students and supervisors are reminded that the use of “additional slides” to be used during the quotations period of the exam are not desirable and students should be able to call on this information “from their heads”.

4. Program development

- a. We are making significant progress on the introduction of a new MSc program for pathology Assistants. Dr Allard will report on this separately
- b. We are starting to develop systems to assist in the training and development of Postdoctoral fellows appointed to the Department since these trainees fall under the general support of the Faculty of graduate studies

5. Awards Subcommittee

- a. We received over 20 applications for CIHR, NSERC, Vanier and Affiliated awards.
- b. Our committee of Drs Pryzdial, Chantler, Hill and Bennewith should be recognized for completing the reviews within the 5 days available for this to meet the FOGS deadlines.

Residency Program and General pathology – Dr. Mike Nimmo

In the 1st ITER there was only 1 match but all of the remaining positions were filled. We are looking for why there is such a low profile for pathology. Applicants from out of province aren't allowed to apply. We have 3 residents writing exams.

Pathology across the country is down but Toronto matched every spot in everything. A lot of spots are available in pathology across the country.

The freeze on positions in the lower mainland could be a major contributor and 3rd year matching is a big problem for us. A lot of medical students don't know what pathology is. The resources in the community should be used.

Medical Biochemistry Residency Training Program – Dr. Andre Mattman, Dr. Daniel Holmes

The UBC medical biochemistry residency training program has undergone no substantial changes since the previous meeting.

Anatomical Pathology – Dr. Diana Ionescu (no report)

Hematopathology – Dr. Monika Hudoba

1. CARMS 2013 match: Krista Marcon, UBC School of Medicine graduate, has matched in to hematopathology residency program.
2. HP fellowship exam in May 1st and June 20-21, 2013: PGY5 resident Salwa El-Malti
3. PSQ (pre-survey questionnaire) for upcoming RCPS residency program survey has been submitted in January 2013. Postgraduate office will review our submissions and give us feedback in May 2013.
4. Dr. Keown's new UBC Molecular and Clinical Immunology course week in January 14-18, 2013 has met with a great success and appreciation.
5. Aperio digital pathology project: joined project between AP/GP/HP to build a digital pathology library, tutorials and exams to help the residents in preparation for their fellowship exams.

Medical Microbiology – Dr. Patrick Doyle

Matched one in 2nd ITER in CARMS.

Neuropathology – Dr. Chris Dunham

Residency positions:

-no acceptable candidates in 1st or 2nd iteration of Carms (no matches)

-accepted Dr. Yazeed Al-Welaie from Saudi Arabia for an externally funded 5-year residency starting July 1, 2013.

-RCPSC 2013 Exam in Neuropathology May 2013. Being sat by 2 residents: Fahad Al-Ghamdi (PGY8) and Zahra Al-Hajri (PGY7). Both Fahad and Zahra previously completed RCPSC residencies in AP at UBC and U Manitoba respectively.

-Three current PGY3's: Peter Schutz (Chief Resident), Veronica Hirsch-Reinshagen, Max Signaevski. All will be writing the Spring 2013 Fellow Neuropathology In-Service Examination (NPISSE) Apr 29-May10;

this is a new bi-annual exam prepared by CAP that, moving forward, the NP residents at UBC will be writing once per year.

-C&W recently hosted Dr. Mircea Iftinca, PGY4 NP resident, U of C, for a 1 month elective in Pediatric NP.

-C&W will be hosting Dr. Sumit Das, PGY4 NP resident, UWO, for a 2 month elective in Pediatric NP May-June 2013 as per our interuniversity agreement.

Transfusion Medicine – Dr. Gerry Growe (no report)

PALS - Dr. Patrick Doyle and Dr. Maria Issa

Organized and Moderated by Dr. Pat Doyle

- You get notified by email, posters and it's on the website – IT IS NOW VIDEO CONFERENCED if you tell us where you wish it sent (so no excuses!)
- If you missed one, the videos are attached to the website – and your password is PALS.
- Residents (have to go) and grad students will receive an Attendance Certificate that can go onto their CVs.
- Clinical Faculty can claim CME credit if you register your presence *via* the video link.
- We had some great sessions on: professionalism and business behaviour; ethics and the differences between QA studies and research studies; how to handle media (and due to popular demand, we will have a second, participatory session); and Pat will whet your appetites with what is to come.

PLEASE Encourage your grad students' attendance by setting a good example and showing up.

Pathology Education Centre (PEC) – Dr. Maria Issa

1. PEC is getting a “face-lift”

The Ken Berry Room now has a projector and screen installed; there are three new office-style open spaces for “term use” and some “interior decoration” is afoot: more when it happens.

2. Your **Teaching Dossier**

Niamh Kelly and Simon Dee have a wonderful new Teaching Dossier for you that will make “life as you know it” simpler especially when you wish to go for Promotion and Tenure. (They will tell you about it!)

3. The **Teaching Opportunities** page on the Pathology Website

- PLEASE POPULATE IT – we don't know that you are looking for opportunities to teach, or have a dire need of someone to fill gaps if you don't tell us!!
- Maintained by Joanne Wouterse who manages the BMLSc Program – ergo “ Joanne's list”

4. The University is becoming increasingly formalized about teaching:

a) To get ahead of the game, the Department has a committee “**Peer-Assisted Teaching Development**” that has created a policy paper – (sitting with the Departmental Executive) – more on that as it develops. ***WE NEED REVIEWERS WHO ARE WILLING TO BE TRAINED by CTLT.*** The idea behind this is to provide support, help and “**formative input**” to make sure we have good teachers who will meet criteria because the University has established the....

b) **Summative Peer Review of Teaching** - fondly known as “SPROT”. This is serious and extensive and quite demanding. No more of the “come and see my lecture next week” kind of review. It’s going to be detailed and documented – and YOU WILL BE COMPARED to “departmental norms” and “university norms” as exemplified by “one45”. The mechanics of comparisons and relationship to student evaluations are still being sorted by the SPROT group. ***We are looking for thoughtful input on how FoM can formally evaluate the “grad student/supervisor relationship” ****

c) **Teaching Hours** – it would be immensely helpful if you could update your CVs and include your teaching hours – of all types!!! – this has financial implications for the department.... As you can well imagine.

Office of Biobank Education and Research (OBER) – Dr. Peter Watson (no report)

Site reports

VCH – Dr. Robert Coupland (no report)

C&W – Dr. Deborah McFadden

We are in the 5th month of a new program that supports clinical research in the department and we are seeing benefits. Our professional budget is in the C&W operating budget of which there is a lot of pressure. There are no cost pressures that have been funded by PHSA, it has all gone to the funding resources. There are potentially bad pressures coming in this year and there will be problems funding clinical positions.

BCCA – Dr. Amir Rahemtulla

The Pathology Department remains very concerned by the absence of protected time for all the anatomic pathologists and cytopathologists at the Vancouver site.

St. Paul’s Hospital – Dr. Enid Edwards (no report)

PA program update – Dr. Nik Makretsov

Some background work is underway in regards to the MSc Pathology Assistant program. We are striving to build onsite training at St. Paul’s Hospital to train histopathology technologists into pathologist assistants. This may enable us to engage teaching faculty from St. Paul’s pathologists and to make a smoother transition to the fully functional multisite MSc Pathology Assistant’s program at the UBC. This is an evolving program and we are entertaining an option to join the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta to develop a Western Canada Regional PA training consortium program for MSc level pathologist assistant training. The preliminary work was done on curriculum development and the executive summary. We are looking to make further progress in the fall and aiming to submit the new MSc PA program proposal officially to the UBC.

BC Centre for Disease Control – Dr. Judy Isaac-Renton

- Dr. William Hsiao, Clinical Assistant Professor, working at the BC Public Health Microbiology Reference Laboratory (BCCDC Site) and team were recently awarded funding from Genome Canada under the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Competition. This competition arose out of the prioritization made by Genome Canada in partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), to support the infrastructure required for computational biology in Canada. Modern genomics technologies produce large, complex amounts of data that require analysis and integration. The next generation of tools supported by this funding will provide the research community broad access to these tools while supporting analysis, data mining and a better understanding of the associated and underlying biology.

Over 100 proposals were submitted across Canada. Of the 17 awards, BC received 7 awards or about \$2.7 million from \$6.2 million available in funding.

The team led by Drs. Fiona Brinkman (Lead PI, Simon Fraser University), William Hsiao (co-PI, UBC) and Gary Van Domselaar (co-PI, National Microbiology Laboratory) will work over the next three years to address gaps in the use and sharing of whole genome sequence data of infectious agents. This will be accomplished by developing a robust genomics analysis platform (code named IRIDA for Integrated Rapid Infectious Disease Analysis) with easy-to-use tools. Public health workers and microbiologists will be trained to use the system to better manage communicable diseases and provide quicker responses to infectious disease outbreaks using whole genome sequence data.

- A Team of pathologists and senior technologists from California, Washington and Oregon arrived unannounced for the College of American Pathologist BCCDC Site inspection several weeks ago. The international accreditation two day audit went very well with kudos and feedback from the CAP Team. The Site is celebrating with an ice cream CAP Cake party.

Royal Columbian Hospital/ Surrey Memorial Hospital – Dr. Arun Garg (no report)

Kelowna – Dr. Murray Savard (no report)

Victoria – Dr. Gordon Hoag (see attached report)

Prince George – Dr. Grant Roden (no report)

New business – none

Dr. Michael Allard adjourned the meeting at 3:52pm, Dr. Hardwick seconded, everyone moved to accept.