The 10th Annual Celebration of Pathology Day

Pathology Day is an annual event that features poster presentations from graduate students, residents, and other trainees. The day concludes with the annual departmental dinner.

Cocktails & Dinner at River Rock Casino Resort (8811 River Road Richmond, BC)

Poster and Oral presentations at UBC Life Sciences Centre

There were two concurrent oral sessions this year so twice as many abstracts selected for oral presentations by residents, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Several awards will be given to best oral and poster presenters.

The resident oral presentation award winners are:

1st Place: Terry Jefferson
“NTRK2 Expression Predicts Improved Survival in Squamous Cell Carcinoma of Lung”

2nd place: David Schaeffer
“Insulin-Like Growth Factor-2 mRNA Binding Protein 3 (IGF2BP3) Expression May Be a Marker for a Unfavorable Prognosis in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma”

3rd place: Tony Ng
“The Anoikis Stress Response Induces the AMPK Energy-sensing Pathway to Promote Survival in Transformed

The graduate oral presentation award winners are:

1st place: Tie between Varun Saran and Agatha Jassem
Varun Saran: “Control of Glycolysis in Cardiac Hypertrophy: Interaction of Hexokinase and Voltage Dependant Anion Channel”
Agatha Jassem: “Outer Membrane Mediated Aminoglycoside Resistance in the Burkholderia Cepacia Complex”

2nd place: Henry Stringer
“Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) Depletion and Deletion in Statin-induced Myopathy”

3rd place: Marissa Jirattkosol
“Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) Mutations in Infants Exposed to HAART in utero”

The poster presentation award winners are:

1st place: Paul Hiebert
“Granzyme B in skin aging and extracellular matrix degradation in apolipoprotein E deficient mice”

2nd place: Sara Giesz
“Practical solutions in biobank facilitation: The BC Biolibrary initiative”

3rd place: Lisa S. Ang
“Extracellular activity of granzyme B contributes to abdominal aortic aneurysm and rupture”
This spring we graduated three MSc Students: Kimberley Louise Emsley-Leik, Penelope Jean Slack, Rita Tory and three PhD students: Ramesh Saeedi, Gang Wang, Jill Williamson. We have a significant number of students who are defending their theses right now so that fall graduation will be busy.

Unfortunately we have been without Ms. Penny Woo who is out on leave until the end of August. Fortunately for us we have had Ms Ruth Sandilands here to replace her. She has been outstanding and as graduate advisor I will swear to that. I would be really lost without her. The program continues in good hands.

At this time we have admitted 7 new students to begin in September. Pathology 535/635 is now being coordinated by Dr. Hélène Côté who I might add is doing an outstanding job of it. Dr. Marcel Bally assisted over the year and we shall see if he can actually leave it, I hope he doesn’t. His contributions to graduate student training have been invaluable to the students. He was acknowledged for the same this last Pathology Day.

Pathology Day, organized this year by Dr. Hélène Côté was an outstanding success for which she was acknowledged at the lovely dinner at the casino. To my knowledge no one lost their shirts gambling after dinner. Correct me if I am wrong. See more on this in the newsletter as well.

Soon thereafter we had the second annual Arts in Science gala night. That too was a success organized by the graduate students. Performances including readings, plays and music were outstanding. I particularly enjoyed Dr. Porter’s Bach piece. Baroque is beautiful. See the note on this event in the news letter.

I am stepping down as graduate advisor as of the end of this month, June 09. It has been a busy but extremely rewarding seven years and I will miss some aspects of it greatly while others I am happy to let go of. I have only retired for one day a week so I will not be gone or deceased, to the best of my knowledge just yet. I would especially like to thank the students who came up with a most beautiful image of my favorite histology teaching slide on a two by almost three foot canvas! I would also like to thank you for your thoughts. Working with you all has been one of the most meaningful and rewarding activities in my career. Thank you for all that you do and for sharing. Finally, I want to thank the department and Dr. Côté and her husband Jamie for hosting the party. I have had a great time.