

UCSF PATHOLOGY ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 6: FEBRUARY 2020

Message from the Chief at ZSFG: Stephen Nishimura, MD

Dear Friends and Alumni,

The General Hospital is undergoing one of the most dynamic and exciting times since its inception. Most importantly, in 2015, a beautiful new hospital, now called Zuckerberg General (ZSFG) opened its doors. This was a first in a series of steps to transform public health care in the City of San Francisco. The next major step was the implementation of a new electronic medical record (EPIC), which has been operational since August 2019. Finally, to fulfill the goal of being the best public hospital in the country, the University of California and UCSF have funded a new 5 floor research building to be built on the ZSFG campus on the site of the parking lot in front of the old ER. This state-of-the art research building will ensure that top notch physicians and scientists can be recruited and retained at ZSFG and will continue to provide exceptional trauma care and medical services to those in need.

The department of pathology at ZSFG has also undergone or is implementing major changes and improvements, including ultrasound guided FNA services, opening a new dedicated FNA clinic space, automated immunohistochemistry (Leica Bond system), telepathology (Remote Medical Technologies), and bar coding. We will also be transitioning to Beaker as our laboratory information systems. We would love to hear from any of our Alumni and would be happy to share our experience.



ZSFG Faculty and Staff (partial representation) with the new ZSFG on the left and the old SFGH on the right:

Front row (L to R): Mark Weinstein, Jennette Ruiz, Amber Nolan, Rita Ung, Poonam Vohra, Dianna Ng, Ursula Lang, Charmian Wong;
Back Row (L to R): Andrew Lewis, J.P. Grenert, Jessica Sanck, Andy Chen, Tony Auge, Stephen Nishimura, Josh Menke, Freddy Chou

Our faculty have also undergone major changes most notably the retirement of the former chief, Walter Finkbeiner, who will be stepping away from his laboratory July 2020; Doug Hanks retired in 2017. We recruited Rebecca Wolsky, a gynecologic pathologist, who spent three great years with us before she was snatched up last year by University of Denver as Director of Gynecologic pathology. The last year year she was honored by the residents with the resident's teaching award.

We also recruited one of our former residents and cytopathology fellows, Dianna Ng, as a cytopathologist/researcher after she spent a year at the CDC as an Infectious Disease Pathology Fellow. As a testament to what is possible at UCSF, she spearheaded collaborations with the Department of Pathology at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) in Tanzania, and established an international elective for UCSF residents and fellows to learn about pathology in East Africa. She currently leads efforts to build capacity for pathology in Tanzania, including holding FNA biopsy workshops and partnering with American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) to provide telepathology consultations using whole slide imaging, and she serves as a research and career mentor to a number of early career pathologists at MUHAS. Her research focuses on the use of innovative technologies to improve breast cancer diagnostics in low-resource settings, including an ongoing pilot study evaluating the GeneXpert® Breast Cancer STRAT4 and FNA biopsy which aims to reduce breast cancer diagnosis and biomarker testing to a single day. Consider supporting the GCP in its initiatives to improve cancer care through innovative research, education and mentorship by making a donation (<https://globalcancer.ucsf.edu/giving>). At the time of this writing Dianna, has been recruited by Memorial Sloan Kettering and will start her new life there in July 2020 and we are actively seeking her replacement.

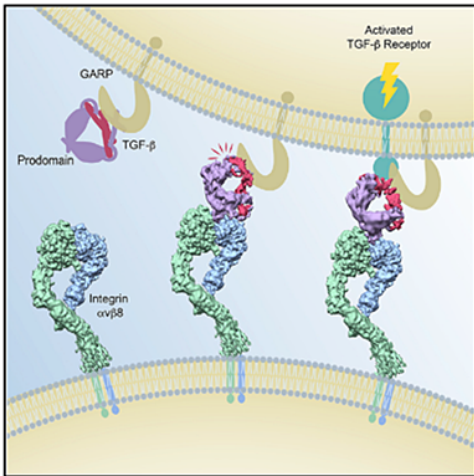


Dianna Ng is joined by Ronald Balassanian, Amie Lee (UCSF Radiology) and Tatiana Kelil (UCSF Radiology) in teaching ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration biopsy at a workshop in January 2019 at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Joshua Menke joined our faculty in 2018. After completing a surgical pathology instructor year at Johns Hopkins, cytopathology fellowship at UCSF, and hematopathology fellowship at Stanford, he came to ZSFG where he attends the cytology, hematopathology, and surgical pathology services and is building a translational research program bringing cutting edge molecular techniques to cytology specimens to improve diagnosis of both solid tumors and hematolymphoid malignancies. His recent study will be presented as a platform at USCAP 2020 Annual Meeting by Naomi Akagi on Monday, March 2nd at 8 AM, entitled "Body Fluid Supernatants Contain Sufficient Cell-Free DNA for Targeted Next Generation Sequencing." He is additionally integrated into both UCSF AP and Lab medicine hematopathology services and aims to translate various ancillary techniques, like supernatant sequencing and mass cytometry, to hematopathology diagnostics. Finally, he is a founding member of the "Cytology Hematopathology Inter-Institution Collaborative" that is analyzing large multi-institutional data sets to study cytology specimen performance in diagnosing lymphoma; his group was recently reached the semi-final round of a Moore Foundation grant.

Poonam Vohra is our Director of Cytopathology and is overseeing our efforts to improve diagnostic cytopathology services, and is also overseeing an arm of a study to longitudinally follow HIV patients to assess their latent reservoirs of HIV using FNA of their lymph nodes.

Some of our junior faculty have also had major achievements with both Gabrielle Rizutto (gestational pathology) and Amber Nolan (neuropathology) receiving the very prestigious KO8 awards, and Ursula Lang (dermatopathology) receiving a Dermatopathology Research Career Development Award. Finally in closing, the ZSFG faculty remains highly committed to academic productivity. We study a diverse array of topics spanning basic to highly clinical. A few highlights are shown below.



Cell

Cryo-EM Reveals Integrin-Mediated TGF- β Activation without Release from Latent TGF- β

Graphical Abstract

Authors
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In Brief
Analysis of intermediate conformations of the interaction between $\alpha v \beta 8$ integrin and latent TGF- β suggests an activation mechanism that does not require release and diffusion of mature TGF- β , which has implications for current approaches to targeting TGF- β signaling therapeutically.

Highlights

- Integrin $\alpha v \beta 8$ in the extended-closed conformation binds to and activates L-TGF- β
- The L-TGF- β RGD loop initiates contact with $\alpha v \beta 8$ through an alternate binding mode
- L-TGF- β is flexible when bound to $\alpha v \beta 8$
- Mature TGF- β activates signaling without being released from the latent TGF- β complex

Article

Lang UE, Torres R, Cheung C, Vladar EK, McCalmont TH, Kim J, Judson-Torres RL. Ciliation Index is a useful diagnostic tool in Spitzoid Melanocytic Neoplasms. *J Invest Dermatol*. In Press.

Ategeka J, Wasswa R, Olwoch P, Kakuru A, Natureeba P, Muehlenbachs A, Kanya MR, Dorsey G, **Rizzuto G**. The prevalence of histologic acute chorioamnionitis among HIV infected pregnant women in Uganda and its association with adverse birth outcomes. *PLoS One*. 2019 Apr 11;14(4):e0215058. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0215058. eCollection 2019.

Chan E, Balassanian R, Tabatabai ZL, Lou H, **Vohra P**. Improved Diagnostic Precision of Urine Cytology by Implementation of The Paris System and the Use of Cell Blocks. *Cancer Cytopathol*. 2018 Sep 11.

Nolan A, De Paula Franca Resende E, Petersen C, Neylan K, Spina S, Huang E, Seeley W, Miller Z, Grinberg LT. 2019. Astrocytic tau deposition is frequent in typical and atypical Alzheimer disease presentations. *Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology*. In Press.

SPECIAL NEWS: Talk of the Department and Beyond

Dr Kirk Jones, Professor of Pathology, as senior author for the article entitled: "Giant cell interstitial pneumonia secondary to cobalt exposure from e-cigarette use", published in the *European Respiratory Journal*, Dec 4, 2019 is getting his "15 minutes of fame" via interviews with Yahoo, CBS, NBC, and IFL-Science as well as a radio interview on KCBS locally in San Francisco.

(<https://erj.ersjournals.com/content/54/6/1901922.article-info>)

Dr Rachael Fels-Elliot, current fellow in our department, is first author on the paper. The paper describes the changes as typical of hard metal pneumoconiosis, or "cobalt lung", due to its close association with exposure to hard metal via the device's e-liquid, which revealed significant levels of cobalt.

SPECIAL NEWS: “Chuck” Retires

Submitted by Dr. Joseph Rabban

After 27 years on faculty at UCSF, Charles Zaloudek, a.k.a “Chuck”, a.k.a “CZ” is retiring at the end of February 2020, and looking forward to some well-deserved time for traveling, skiing, and wine-tasting with his wife Jane. Internationally and nationally, Chuck is known as the pathologist’s pathologist, an international consultant in gynecological pathology, author of many textbooks and articles, including several editions of the WHO “blue book” on GYN tumors, and a highly popular lecturer at continuing education courses. At UCSF we have all been fortunate enough to also know Chuck as a wonderful colleague, a dedicated teacher and mentor, and a great companion for an afternoon espresso! Chuck is a graduate of UC Berkeley (undergrad), The Johns Hopkins Medical School, Stanford University (residency), and MD Anderson (fellowship). After a stint as a military physician, Chuck pursued academic surgical pathology at Medical College of Georgia, the AFIP, and George Washington University, followed by a brief tenure in private practice at Alta Bates Medical Center in Berkeley before joining the faculty at UCSF for nearly three decades. Chuck will be greatly missed at UCSF.

In honor of his retirement, the theme of the Saturday session of our department’s 2020 Current Issues in Anatomic Pathology CME course (May 23, 2020) will be devoted to gynecological pathology, including special guests Esther Oliva (Massachusetts General Hospital, current President of the International Society of Gynecological Pathology) and Robert Soslow (Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center). Chuck will be in the audience this year instead of at the podium and would enjoy saying hello to any alumni who are also attending the course. In addition, all alums are welcome to the Course Reception on Friday May 22nd at 5pm (after the Henry Moon Lectureship, see details below), at which we will also recognize Chuck’s retirement.

Upcoming Events

Current Issues in Anatomic Pathology, May 20-23, 2020, announcement from the Course Chair, Dr Laura Tabatabai

We have a great course planned for Current Issues this year and invite you to join us!

In tribute to Dr. Charles “Chuck” Zaloudek’s nearly 30 years of service and upcoming retirement, the Current Issues lectures on Saturday, May 23, 2020 will be focused on Gynecologic Pathology with guest faculty including Drs. Esther Oliva and Robert Soslow. This will be a great opportunity for participants and alumni to interact with expert UCSF and guest faculty and to meet up and congratulate Dr. Zaloudek on his retirement!

On Thursday, May 21, 2020 lectures will include GI-related topics with guest faculty, Dr. Rish Pai, Molecular Pathology, Hematopathology, Placental Pathology, and Pulmonary Pathology, including a hot-topic lecture on vaping-associated lung injury by Dr. Kirk D. Jones.

Friday, May 22, 2020 will include special lectures on Head and Neck Pathology featuring Dr. Lester D. R. Thompson as our invited Henry Moon Lecturer. UCSF Alumni are invited to attend the Henry Moon Lecture free of charge and are also invited to the Friday evening Wine & Cheese Reception where there will be ample opportunity to mingle with old friends and make new ones, interact with the expert UCSF and guest faculty, and to catch up with Dr. Zaloudek who will be retiring!

Other course highlights include several interactive sessions including the Cytology Seminar on Wednesday, May 20, 2020; the lunch tutorials including soft tissue, hematopathology, and genitourinary topics; and the evening interactive microscopy sessions at the new Mission Bay campus. We’re also excited to offer a hands-on Ultrasound-Guided Fine Needle Aspiration Workshop at our new PCMB Fine Needle Aspiration Clinic this year.

Please save the date and we look forward to seeing you there!

Current Issues

USCAP 2020 in Los Angeles

February 29 - March 5, 2020

Registration Now Open

Hotel Reservations Now Open

USCAP 2020 in Los Angeles:

UCSF Pathology Reception Info:

All UCSF pathology alums are invited to UCSF Pathology's annual USCAP Reception!

Date: Sunday March 1, 2020

Time: 8:00pm to 11:00pm

Location: JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE

(Gold Ballroom 4)

900 W. Olympic Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90015

The bar will be beer and wine only and will be hosted until a specific threshold is met and then it will transition to a no host bar.

As we look forward to the future for the department and the exciting initiatives ahead, please consider supporting us. Your support impacts the greatest needs of the department, clinical research, and education and training

Make a Gift