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# Pathology News

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## October 1999

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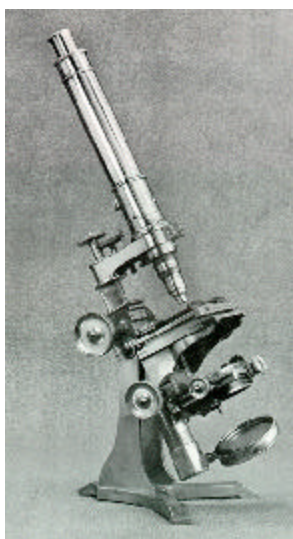
**Pathology News**  
**Department of Pathology, Richardson Labs**  
**Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6**  
**Canada**

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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!

75 days until 2000 January 01



### From The Head

**F**our condolences are with David More and his father Dr. Robert More on the loss of Dorothy More. The following is an excerpt from the Kingston Whig Standard. "On October 9, 1999, Dorothy passed away peacefully at home in the warmth and presence of her husband, after a long and courageous battle with Parkinson's Disease. Loving and beloved wife of Dr. Robert Hall More. Loving and beloved mother of Christopher More, Patricia More of Montreal, and David (Donna) More of Kingston. Dorothy was known for her warmth, compassion and firmness of purpose. In Kingston, she was active for many years in the Medical Wives Association, in Sunday School and in efforts to create and conserve green spaces along the Bath Road and at the Cataraqui Conservation Area. In Montreal, after being stricken with Parkinson's Disease, she became one of the nurses in the first Palliative Care Unit in a teaching hospital in Canada and she was instrumental in organizing the women's program of the Learned Societies' meeting in Montreal. In both cities, her gracious kindness as hostess to Medical and Pathology Residents, Pathologists and their families will always be fondly remembered."

### Dr. Santosh Wasan

Dr. Santosh Wasan has retired from our Department and Queen's University as of October 1 1999.

Santosh had a distinguished career at Queen's beginning in 1962 as an Intern at the Kingston General Hospital. She completed her residency program in General Pathology and a Master's in Neuropathology with the support of a Medical Research Council of Canada Fellowship. In her thirty years as an active Faculty member Dr. Wasan developed an impressive depth of expertise in diverse areas of anatomic

pathology, initially in cardiovascular research, shortly thereafter in ophthalmic pathology and for the last five years in pediatric pathology. Her subspecialty expertise was augmented during two sabbaticals and complemented by an extensive postgraduate educational program for residents in our department and in the departments of Ophthalmology and Pediatrics. Dr. Wasan is a superb teacher and has been the recipient of the Aesculapian Society Lectureship Award and been nominated for the PAIRO Teaching Award. We will clearly have difficulty replacing her many talents.

We wish Santosh and her husband Madanlal health and happiness. In paraphrasing her most recent letter to us we "hope that she will consider Queen's her academic home with pride and fond memories".

#### **Dr. Tim Karnauchow**

We have been extraordinarily fortunate to attract Dr. Tim Karnauchow to fill Dr. Gloria Delisle's position. Tim has a MSc in Microbiology from Queen's, a PhD from Ottawa and postdoctoral clinical microbiology training in an excellent program at the University of Rochester. Tim was heavily recruited at two other centres in Canada and chose Queen's because we offer an integrated academic and clinical laboratory experience and excellent professional and technical interrelationships within a well designed laboratory. Tim's developmental and research interests include the rapidly evolving area of DNA techniques in the rapid and accurate identification of organisms. Tim will be working especially closely with Dr. Lewis Tomalty, the Director of the Microbiology Lab and with Dr. Dick Zoutman the Head of Infection Control.

## **D** r. Dexter's Corner

### **BLOOD DONATION AND VARIANT CJD**

Although British Beef is now available in countries other than Britain, fears of transmission of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease have resulted in a wave of bans on human blood donation.

The FDA announced on August 18, 1999 that Americans who have spent 6 months or more in Britain since 1980 are now banned from donating blood. An estimate of the impact is a reduction of 10.7% of current blood donation.

A similar ban is to take effect in Canada effective September 30, 1999. Ireland has yet to decide on whether to ban donations from those who had lived in Britain during the Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis outbreak. At least 8% of the Irish population had been to Britain during that time. Any ban there would cripple the Blood Service. No specific comments were made of the impact on the National Health Service. One supposes there is little that could be done other than the traditional "grin and bear it" approach.

The ban for Canada refers to Britain. Although Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom, Ireland, a separate republic, is not. The ban should, by rights, include Eire as a whole because of the high frequency of travel and significant commerce between the two countries.

The principle criterion appears to be time spent in Britain. It does not reflect diet (e.g. vegetarian) or travel and activities (e.g. visits to farms, etc). The ban will have an impact on blood donation in Canada. One cannot but wonder that the risks of contracting variant CJD by receiving blood from such a donor is so exceedingly remote that it brooks little or not comparison with any other risks associated with blood product transfusion and by factors denoted by a staggering number of zeros. Perhaps that is why the concept of a googol(\*+) was developed.

\* googol: staggering large number equivalent to 10 to the power 100.

+googolplex: An even more staggeringly large number equivalent to a googol to the power 100.

Reference: "Googol and Googolplex" - The Joy of Mathematics. San Carlos, CA. Wide World Publ/Tefra, page 76, 1989.

Reference: Lancet, page 754, August 28, 1999.

### **Dr. Daniel CONNOR Visiting Professor - September 9, 1999**

Dr. Dan Connor visited the department recently and gave an excellent session on the Pathology of Infectious Disease. The case material was unique and reflected an extraordinarily rich and varied career that took Dr. Connor around the world and into remote corners of Africa in a search to understand the nature of tropical and infectious diseases largely unknown at that time.

His experience and knowledge were distilled into papers, texts, and teaching. He co-authored the definitive textbook, "Pathology of Infectious Diseases", a two-volume, 190 chapter epic published in 1997. On the fly leaf he wrote, "To members of the Department of Pathology, Queen's University with my esteem. This meeting brings back a rush of pleasant memories of my student days. Dan Connor 9/9/99".

A graduate of Queen's University Medical School, Dan collaborated with Herb Manz who was a neuropathologist in the department in the early 70's. Ernie Lack, another co-author, was a Fellow at Memorial Sloan-Kettering at the time David Dexter attended there. It was quite remarkable to realize the numerous links and mutual colleagues from David Robertson, to Barb Campling, to Saskatchewan, and so forth.

Dr. Connor has a cottage on Long Lake during the summer and fall. We hope to persuade

him to return and to share his expertise and experiences in the near future.

### **PATHOLOGICAL POT-POURRI SALT**

An earnest discussion across the microscope while signing out a thyroid mass led to a certain banter about necks and collar sizes. This, for a change, had nothing to do with muscle hypertrophy secondary to steroid use in budding overpaid athletes, but with iodine deficiency. The Kingston area with the limestone bedrock was iodine deficient. In England neck enlargement secondary to iodine deficiency was sufficiently common and geographically focussed to generate the name, "Derbyshire Neck".

"So", said the resident, a furrow in his brow, "when did we put iodine into the salt?" The answer lay on the web page of "The Salt Institute".

The "father" of iodized salt in the United States could not have been more appropriately named. David Marine (1880-1976) undertook research on endemic goitre and iodine deficiency which led the Michigan State Medical Society to approve and begin a goitre prevention programme using iodized salt in 1924. It was highly successful and quickly spread throughout the country.

Both potassium and cuprous iodide are approved for use in table salt. Potassium iodate is used in tropical regions as it is more stable in hot and humid conditions. Iodine deficiency is still a major problem in less developed countries and major efforts are underway by WHO and others in Pakistan, Kenya, Nigeria, Vietnam, and Latin America.

Micronutrients such as fluoride are added to salt in France, Mexico, Switzerland, and other countries with Egypt selling calcium and iron-fortified salt.

David F. Dexter, MD Department of Pathology



For all you Graduate Students out there...

## Upcoming Events

**U** Remembrance Day November 11th - Queen's Classes cancelled 10:30-11:30 am to allow students staff and faculty to attend services.

## Infection Control Week October 18-22

Connell 3 lobby display, doors prizes! More!

## For Your Information

**F** Dr. B. Pearse, Radiology Department personally delivered chocolates to the stenographers on Douglas 2 for their "courteous and prompt service".

Lesley Archambault received flowers from Dr. Holtby (Thunder Bay) for going "beyond the call of duty" and arranging for material to be sent to another hospital.

The Toronto Hospital has changed its name to "University Health Network", as of 1999 August 16.

## Dr. Barry Smith

Dear Colleagues: As many of you are aware, I have recently been unwell with what is now clearly a progressive neuromuscular problem. In order that my health not put the Faculty of Health Sciences at risk, and with the support of Principal Leggett, I have decided to step down as Dean and Vice Principal effective October 31, 1999. It has been a great honour to work with each of you over the past three years, and I know that you will,

collectively and individually, continue your outstanding leadership to ensure stability during the upcoming transition. Sincerely, Barry T. Smith, MD, FRCPC, Dean & Vice-Principal Health Sciences

The following is a note

from **Dr. J.F. Brien**:

Dear Colleagues:

As Dean Barry Smith announced at the Faculty Board meeting, I have decided to step down as Associate Dean, Research in the Faculty of Health Sciences, as of October 31, 1999. I have made this decision for professional and personal reasons, and in consultation with Dean Smith and Vice-Dean David Walker.

It has been a distinct honour for me to serve the Faculty of Health Sciences as Associate Dean, Research. I greatly appreciate the support and advice that many of you have given me during my time in this challenging position.

Best wishes to you in your current and future research endeavours. Sincerely, James F. Brien

## Service Milestones

KGH

25 Years

Lillian Campbell - Microbiology

Anna Dyke - Cytology

Al Fletcher - Pathology

Elizabeth Holland - Chemistry

Lori Servage - Histopathology

Julie Soucie - Core Lab

15 Years

Julia Smith - Microbiology

10 Years

Caroline Hensman - Hemophilia Lab

Cathy Skinner - Chemistry

Carolyn Stephenson - Histopathology

Beverly Weaver - Clinical Lab Services

5 Years

Sandy Boag, David Hurlbut, David LeBrun, John Rossiter - Pathology

### **The Master of Health Professions Education (MHPE) Degree**

From: Dr. Leslie Sandlow, Professor and Head, Department of Medical Education, College of Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago. "The MHPE degree is designed for the working professional, and has previously been offered on campus in both semester length courses and one to two week intensive blocks. The MHPE can now be earned through the Internet. Participants can complete all course requirements online, and also attend an annual conference on campus at which they have the opportunity to meet faculty and student colleagues in person. You can see the curriculum and other program information on the internet at <http://www.mhpe-online.org>. At this year's annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges there will be a demonstration of the MHPE online course as part of the Innovations in Medical Education exhibition. Visit booth #422 to learn more about this innovative program."

### **Sabbatical and Academic Leave**

Sabbatical and academic leave applications for all members of faculty (clinical and QUFA bargaining unit members) are due in the Vice-Dean's Office by **Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**. The Vice-Dean will review the departmental recommendations and make every effort to reach a decision and inform each applicant, in writing, by Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Clinical members of faculty should follow the procedures outlined in the Senate Statement on Academic Leave. This document is available on the web at <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/senate/police>. Members of the QUFA bargaining unit should refer to Article 27 of the Collective Agreement which is also available on the web at <http://www.queensu.ca/qufa>. The leave application form is available in Dr. Manley's office.

### **Nominations for 2000 Honorary Degrees**

The Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees is now inviting nominations for the award of Honorary Degrees at the 2000 Convocations. These nominations should be submitted to the Secretary of the University by **15 October 1999**. Nominations will be provided to faculty representatives and other committee members at least seven days before the meeting. In cases where several nominations are appropriate for a particular Faculty, the committee would welcome information on Faculty priorities and preferences. A completed nomination form is essential for the information of the Committee and for Senate. The Senate Committee places particular emphasis on the section on reasons for awarding the degree. Nominators may vary the length of the sections, but must limit the content to two pages plus up to 15 pages of supporting material including cv's, letters of support, etc. Copies of the nomination form are available at the University Secretariat or on the web at <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat>.

### **Queen's Staff Card Earns VIA Savings**

Thanks to an arrangement between Queen's University, VIA Rail and In Kind Canada, staff and faculty at Queen's are now eligible for 30% off regular train fares and 10% off VIA 1 fares for all travel - personal as well as business. All you have to do is show your Queen's University staff card when you purchase your tickets. Student ID will continue to yield a 40% discount.

### **Student & Staff ID Cards**

Queen's students are starting their millennial year with a new photo identification card. The new cards combine all the features of the old card - photo, signature, bar code and validation sticker - with the added feature of a magnetic stripe that for now will be used to access campus meal plans, but in future may be used for purposes as varied as photocopying, gym purchases and security access to campus buildings. Any registered student who has not yet picked up their new photo ID should go to the University Registrar's Office in Room 103, Richardson Hall.

A new staff card, incorporating photo ID and the magstripe, is also in the works, with plans for the new cards to be in place later this fall.



A water fountain was recently installed on Douglas 2 ...

### Postdoctoral Fellow

Mike Teitell, MD, PhD at Pathology of UCLA (University of California at Los Angeles) conducts active and excellent medical research and is looking for a postdoctoral candidate. If you know anyone who is interested please pass along the email and ask them to contact Dr. Teitell directly at [mteitell@pathology.medsch.ucla.edu](mailto:mteitell@pathology.medsch.ucla.edu) or [mteitell@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:mteitell@mednet.ucla.edu)

### Positions Available

#### University of Rochester

Director of Molecular Diagnosis Laboratory. The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry is searching for a dynamic and accomplished individual to become the Director of the Molecular Diagnosis Laboratory. The laboratory is responsible for molecular testing in the fields of genetics, neoplastic disorders, and infectious diseases. The successful applicant will have MD or MD/PhD degrees, be board certified in anatomic and/or clinical pathology, internal medicine, or pediatrics with subspecialty training in clinical molecular diagnosis. Subspecialty board certification is very desirable. The appointment will be at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor and this individual will be expected to build a program in translational or applied research. The University of Rochester is rapidly expanding its research programs. There are multiple opportunities for collaborative research and for the development of clinical initiatives through interactions with members of the

Department, the Cancer Center, the Infectious Disease Unit, and the new Aab Institutes of Biomedical Sciences in the fields of cancer biology, vaccines and immunology, aging and development, cardiovascular disease, oral biology, and genetics. Interested individuals

should send their CV and a list of three references by **November 1, 1999** to: Steven L. Spitalnik, M.D., Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Box 626, 601 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, New York 14642

The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry is currently recruiting an oral pathologist at the Assistant Professor or Associate Professor level. The successful applicant will have MD, DDS, MD/PhD, or DDS/PhD degrees, be board certified in AP, AP/CP, or oral pathology and have subspecialty training in oral pathology. This individual will be expected to build our service in oral pathology and develop an extramurally-funded basic research program. The Medical Center is rapidly expanding its research programs. Thus, there are multiple opportunities for collaborative research and for the development of clinical initiatives through interactions with members of the Department of Dentistry, the Cancer Center, and the new Aab Institutes of Biomedical Sciences in the fields of oral biology, cancer biology, immunology, aging and development, cardiovascular disease, and genetics. In addition, multiple opportunities for collaboration exist with members of our Department. Interested individuals should send their CV and a list of three references by **November 1, 1999** to: Steven L. Spitalnik, M.D., Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Box 626, 601 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, New York 14642

Director of Stem Cell Processing. The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry is searching for a dynamic and accomplished individual to become the Director of Stem Cell Processing in the Blood Bank Section of the department. The successful applicant will have MD or MD/PhD degrees, be board certified in clinical pathology, internal medicine, or pediatrics with subspecialty training in stem cell processing, stem cell transplantation, and transfusion medicine. The appointment will be at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor and this individual will be expected to build a program in basic, translational, or applied research. The University of Rochester has an active program in adult and pediatric autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplantation. In addition, it is rapidly expanding its research programs. There are multiple opportunities for collaborative research and for the development of clinical initiatives through interactions with members of the Department, the Cancer Center, the Section of Hematology/Oncology, and the new Aab Institutes of Biomedical Sciences in the fields of cancer biology, vaccines and immunology, aging and development, and genetics. Interested individuals should send their CV and a list of three references by **November 1, 1999** to: Steven L. Spitalnik, M.D., Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Box 626, 601 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, New York 14642

## 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 8 pages for October.

## Richardson Research Seminars

Tuesdays at 4:00 pm in Richardson Amphitheatre

October 19	Mr. Bob St. Onge, Grad. Student
October 26	Dr. N. Grammatikakis, Thomas Jefferson University
Nov. 5 **	Dr. A. Pawson, Univ. of Toronto
Nov. 9	Dr. D. Van Vugt, Dept. Obstet. & Gynecology, Queen's Univ.
Nov. 16	Mr. Brian Brown, Grad. Student; Ms Annie Killoran, Grad. Student
Nov. 23	Dr. K. Aronson, Dept. Community Health & Epidem., Queen's Univ.
Nov. 30	Mr. Chris Davidson, Grad. Student
Dec. 7	Mr. Yotis Senis, Grad. Student
Dec. 14	Dr. Joyce Slingerland, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Ctr., Toronto

\*\* Please note this is a Friday seminar

## Network News

### Workstation Software Upgrades:

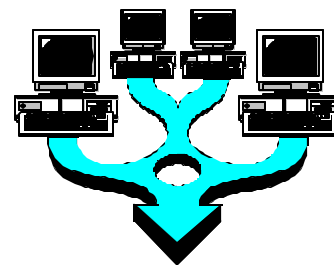
**Netscape Communicator v4.7** is now out and I'll be replacing your netscape v4.61 or older as I come around doing software maintenance. This is mainly bug fixes and security patches

**Packman** has started to be installed on various workstations as well. It is a software distribution system that makes it easier to upgrade software from a central source (especially the anti-virus scanner). SO if you see this on your desktop, don't worry too much.

Our **telnet to Bracken Library medline** service ran into some problems recently in that we are unable to print locally the results of any searches that are run on the system. This happened when the medline software was last upgraded. So they point the figure at us and we do the same at them. Since no solution has been found, the only other way to print is to use the web based medline interface (link located on our web site)

### Trivia:

© There were approximately 17,920 pieces of email in and out of the Department during the month of September 1999.



## Subject: Operating systems and planes :) If OSs Were Like Airlines

### UNIX Airways

Everyone brings one piece of the plane along when they come to the airport. They all go out on the runway and put the plane together piece by piece, arguing non-stop about what kind of plane they are supposed to be building.

### Air DOS

Everybody pushes the aeroplane until it glides, then they jump on and let the plane coast until it hits the ground again. Then they push again, jump on again, and so on ...

### Mac Airlines

All the stewards, captains, baggage handlers, and ticket agents look and act exactly the same. Every time you ask questions about details, you are gently but firmly told that you don't need to know, don't want to know, and everything will be done for you without your ever having to know, so just shut up.

(Of course you get where you are going, on time, every time, relaxed and comfortable. - ed.) :-)

### Windows Air

The terminal is pretty and colourful, with friendly stewards, easy baggage check and boarding, and a smooth take-off. After about 10 minutes in the air, the plane explodes with no warning whatsoever.

### Windows NT Air

Just like Windows Air, but costs more, uses much bigger planes, and takes out all the other aircraft within a 40 mile radius when it explodes.

### Linux Air

Disgruntled employees of all the other OS airlines decide to start their own airline. They build the planes, ticket counters, and pave the runways themselves. They charge a small fee to cover the cost of printing the ticket, but you can also download and print the ticket yourself. When you board the plane, you are given a seat, four bolts, a wrench and a copy of the seat-HOWTO.html. Once settled, the fully adjustable seat is very comfortable, the plane leaves and arrives on time without a single problem, the in-flight meal is wonderful. You try to tell customers of the other airlines about the great trip, but all they can say is, "You had to do what with the seat?"

## Server Overview

**Richlab1** : An NT server that runs the following services:

file server (drives f,g,h,i,n, etc), print server (all network printers run through it), email program (pegasus mail), scheduling program (ontime), domain login server, email server (cliff.path.queensu.ca), and time server (most workstations ask this machine for the correct time).

This is the machine that locks up every week or two and causes the most problems in the department.

**Richlab2**: an NT server that will shortly become the new email and scheduling server. Reducing the load from Richlab1 should make it more stable as well. Also an alternate gateway into KGH.

**Web**: a Linux server that runs the web server, a smart email relay for cliff.path.queensu.ca and a standalone email system for other department members that do not have email accounts on cliff.

**CDServer1**: a Linux server that stores and shares software archives and 3 cdroms of material to the department. This is where things like netscape v4.7 are when I get them to install on your workstation.

**LISDump**: An NT server that does some database processing and storage on things like lab test turn around times.

**Y2K date formats**: In general the format is YYYYMMDD. An alternative is YYYY monthname DD

## 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, November 1st, 1999*.

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