# State of the Department: Looking Back and Moving Forward

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Department of Pathology, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist

February 15, 2023





## **Outline**

- Looking Back On 2022
  - Research
  - Education
  - Clinical
  - Our People
  - Integration
- Going Forward In 2023





## Research

- Extramural Funding (NIH and Industry)
  - \$13.7 M
    - \$11.9 M in grants
    - \$1.8 M in Contracts
  - PIs



Mark Baxter



Mark Cline



Matt Jorgenson



Kylie Kavanagh



Matt Quinn



Tom Register



**Carol Shively** 



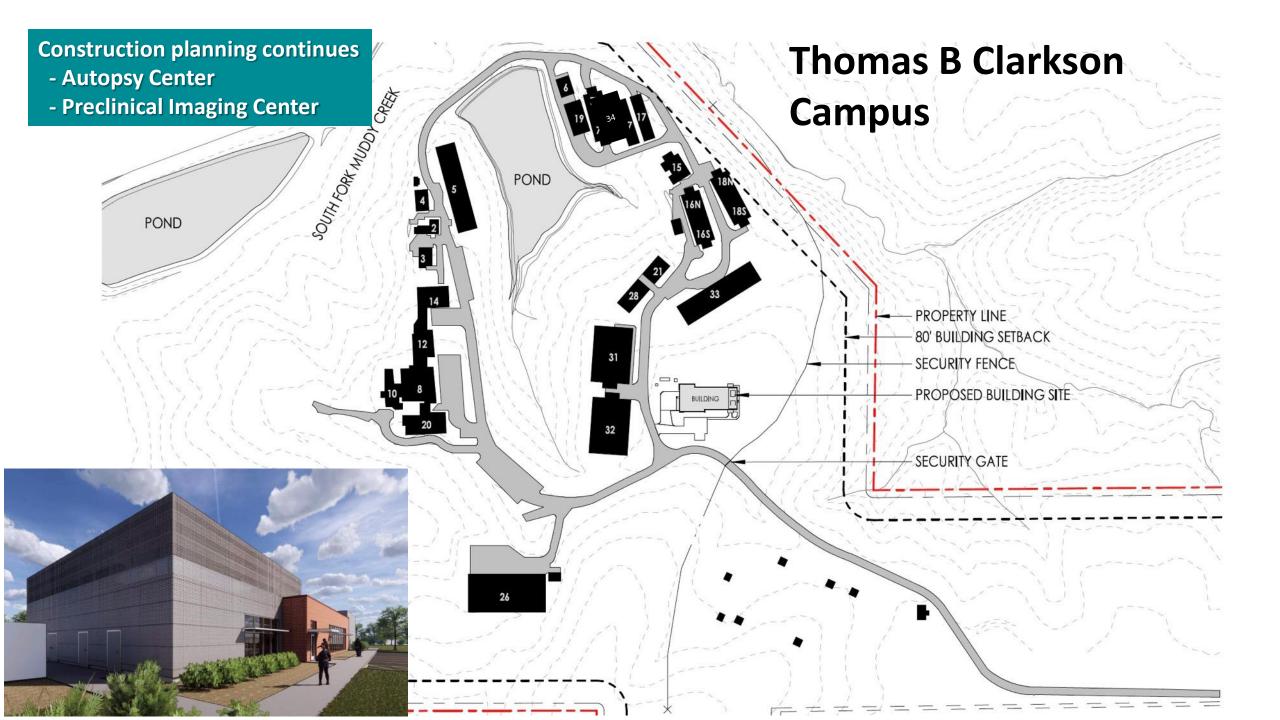
William Harrison



Eric Hsi





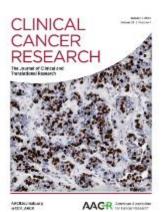


## Research

- Publications (academic year)
  - 103 manuscripts published
    - Publications highlight the basic science, translational, and clinical research interests of the faculty
  - High impact journals (IF ≥ 6.0)
    - Mod Pathol, Blood, eLife, J Am Heart Assoc., JCI Insights, Blood Advances, Geroscience, Clin Cancer Res, Frontiers in Immunology, Science Advances

















## Research

- Research Awards!
  - Carol Shively, 2022 Established Investigator Award



- Recruitment:
  - Mark Baxter, PhD Professor
    - Neural mechanisms of memory and cognitive function.







## **Education – The Next Generation**

- Our AP/CP Residency Program the core of our educational efforts
- Pathology residents an integral part of our clinical and academic programs
  - Hail to the chiefs:
    - Heath Blankenship and Martin Burks
    - Alex Balmaceda and Azad Bakht
      - The "A" team
- Program Directors:
  - Dan Coldren











### **Laboratory Animal Medicine Residents**

- Allison Tomasino, DVM
  - Second year



- Yarines Gonzalez-Rodriguez, DVM
  - First Year





Melaney Gee, DVM, DACLAM Program Director





#### **Comparative Medicine T32 Postdoctoral Fellows**



Brendan Johnson, DVM

Neuroimaging and

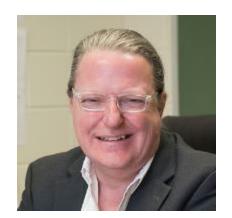
Cognition



Kendall Langsten, DVM, DACVP Breast Cancer



Cecilia Schaaf, DVM, PhD Intestinal Epithelial Biology



Mark Cline, DVM, PhD, DACVP Program Director





# **Veterinary Anatomic Pathology Residents**



Emily Mackey, DVM, PhD

2<sup>nd</sup> year resident



Amanda Duggan, DVM

• 1<sup>st</sup> year resident



Nancy Kock, DVM, PhD,
DACVP
Program Director





# **Comparative Medicine Research Fellows**



Dr. Sc. Nat. Simon Deycmar

- ROCHE
   Postdoctoral
   Fellow in Cancer
   Immunotherapy
- Cline Lab



William Shane Sills, DVM, DACVP

- Research Fellow
- Comparative
   Oncology and

   Immunology
- Cline Lab



George W. Schaaf, DVM, DACVP

- Research Fellow
- Radiation Late Effects
- Cline Lab



Courtney Lynn Sutphen, PhD

- Research Fellow
- Alzheimer Fluid Biomarkers
- Register Lab



Ravichandra "Ravi" Vemuri, PhD

- Research Fellow
- Microbiome and Metabolism
- Kavanagh Lab





## **Education and Trainee Kudos**

• Resident teaching awards went to **Dr. Haiyan Lu** 



• Martin Burks - CAP Economic Affairs committee as a junior member



 Alex Balmaceda - appointed to the CAP Hematology and Clinical Microscopy Committee as a junior member



• Shou Niu – Education Committee, Digital Pathology Association







## Residents/Fellows Out and About

- Presentations at National Meetings
  - Martin Burks:
    - Impact of Digital Pathology and AI on the AP Lab (National Medical Association)
  - Mernoosh Ghandili:
    - Novel Hybrid Mutation of a RHCE Genotype in a Family Discovered After Investigation of anti-Rh46 (CAP '22 Annual)
    - Sudden Cardiac Death (2022 Western NC Death Investigator Conference)
  - Lorena Costa:
    - Case report GA in a 2 year old male (2022 American Society of Dermatopathology)
  - Addie Hancock:
    - False Positive Rate for Suspected Drug Related Deaths Following Full Autopsy (NAME) 2022)
    - Two Bullet Wounds: One Bullet: (NAME 2022)
  - Christopher Humphries (HP fellow)
    - Primary CNS ALCL (USCAP 2022)
    - LRF National Lymphoma Rounds











# **Anatomic Pathology Accomplishments**

- Welcomed High Point Pathologists
  - Drs. Oaks, Fancey, and Croitoru
  - Coverage with Drs. Kim Shapiro and Hernandez
- Subspecialty sign out on the main campus
  - An evolving process
  - Thanks to all the AP faculty and operations team for making this a reality
- Interim AP co-directors: Lisa Kim-Shapiro and Ruth Lininger









# **Anatomic Pathology Accomplishments**

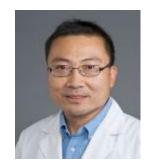
- New equipment:
  - Dako, Ventana Benchmark, 5<sup>th</sup> Leica Bond III Automated Immunostainers







- New tests: 10 new immunostains (on top of 9 in 2021)
  - SATB2, INSM1, P120, STAT6, IgG, IgG4, CA IX, TIA1, Perforin, Claudin-4



Dr. Wencheng Li



Dr. Danielle Maracaja





#### Chemistry

Core Lab – New AU5800 chemistry and DxI immunoanalyzers and automation line

- Completed validations!
- Water "intrusion" due to aging DI system
- Major problems with DXI reliability
- Kudos: Erica VanDyke, Johanna Walton, Julie Simmons, Dr. S.
- Dec 2022/Jan 2023 marked improvement in TATs





Alina Sofronescu, PhD

- Chemistry New tests (partial list)
  - MMA, gentamicin, estradiol, progesterone, DHEA, pleural fluid pH, SHBG, CA125, AFP





- HLA -
  - Supporting Atrium Charlotte with high resolution HLA typing
  - BMT Chimerism studies transferred
  - MiSeq for capacity and back-up











- Improvements in protein electrophoresis and Hgb s/o
- CellaVision went live!
- Flow cytometry New BD Lyric 12 color





Dr. Michael Gautreaux







Dr. Michael Beaty











- Molecular Diagnostics (Lyalin/Insuasti/Giauque/Taghiyev/Arispe)
  - Biodot evaluation automation
  - Continued integration and restructuring under main CLIA
  - Discontinuation of prenatal serum screening
  - DuoSeq NGS validation novel DNA/RNAseq for lymphoma
  - Genexus NGS panel for myeloid malignancy
    - Substantial cost savings, far superior TATs
    - MolDx codes received enables insourcing and external new business (Novant)
  - Movement of HPV testing to Microbiology
- Microbiology
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Roche Cobas 6800 successfully obtained and validated
    - HPV and other new testing, COVID
    - Redundancy and capacity
    - Decompresses PCR lab in AP
  - Interim Medical Director, core lab CLT











Dr. Lyalin

Dr. Insuasti Dr. Giauque







Dr. Taghiyev

Dr. Arispe





Dr. Palavecino





- Transfusion Medicine/BMT
  - 35,048 units transfused, a 7.37% decrease
    - Major driver was fewer MTPs with fewer units/MTP
  - Patient Blood Management data collection begun
    - Anemia Management program planning with 2023 implementation
    - Enterprise Advisory Committee formed Royster, Weiss
  - Blood bank services opened at Davie Hospital
    - Began whole blood transfusions
  - Chilled Platelet Study (CHIPS) opened (TM and Cardiac Anesthesia co-Pls)
    - Phase 3, multicenter, randomized, double-blinded, noninferiority, trial that will compare the transfusion of coldstored (4C) platelets at multiple storage durations to standard (22C) platelets







Dr. Maracaja



Dr. Pomper





# **Our People: Faculty Promotions in 2022**



Susan Appt, DVM Professor (with tenure)



Kylie Kavanagh, VMS, MPH Professor (with tenure)





# **Our People**

- Faculty
  - Retirements Dr. Cohen (Professor Emeritus)
  - Resignations 2021 Dr. Koty, Dr. Kleven, Dr. Parks, Dr. Steele
  - AP/CP Recruitments
    - Dr. Ruth Lininger Jan. 2022
    - Dr. Yanjun Hou April 2022
    - Dr. Anne Shepler May 2022
    - Dr. Zahra Aly June 2022
    - Dr. Jesus Hernandez July 2022
    - Dr. Karen Arispe August 2022
    - Dr. Taghiyev July 2022
    - Dr. Giauque October 2022

















## **Our People – Service and Influence**

- National Committee Chairs 2022
  - Hou Finance Committee Co-Chair, CAPA
  - Hsi ALLIANCE Pathology Committee, CAP Hematology and Clinical Microscopy
- Society/Academy Officers
  - DeLoid President of the Academy of Surgical Research
- Editorial Boards
  - Appt, Beaty, Caudell, Cline, Fadeyi, Gautreaux, Hsi, Kavanagh, Palavecino,
     Pomper, Quinn Sangueza, Sofronescu,
- Course Faculty National Meetings
  - Hsi, Pomper





# Our People – DEI Task Force

**Mission:** To create an environment that values diversity and promotes a culture of inclusion and respect among all employees within the Department of Pathology

- Chairs: Susan Appt, Comparative Medicine, Danielle Maracaja, Clinical Pathology & Anatomic Pathology
- Initiatives: Education and training, Suggestion Boxes,
   Survey, Newsletter
- We need you!





# Integration Operating Model

#### Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Leadership Council Structure

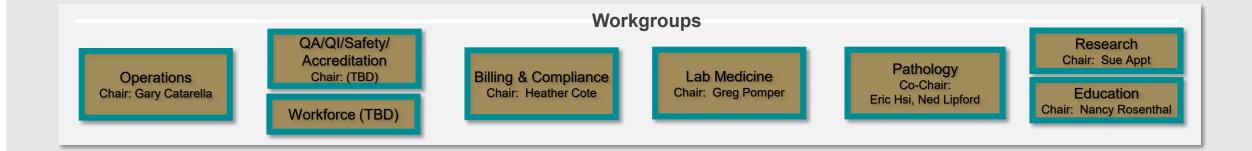
Enterprise Service Line Leader Dr. Eric Hsi

Enterprise Academic Chair Dr. Eric Hsi

#### **Enterprise Pathology & Laboratory Executive Council**

Chair: Dr. Eric Hsi and Gary Catarella

Members: Dr. Ned Lipford, Dr. Gene Battles, Lauren Elmore, Conrad Emmerich, Regina Nowell, Mike Waid, Michael Hajworonsky



# **Integration Accomplishments**

- Specific workgroups were actively working in 2022
- AP/Research
  - 8 consensus conferences running
  - 4 abstracts submitted to USCAP in 2022 and 3 accepted for 2023 meeting
  - Subspecialties are discussing EPIC Harmonization in consensus conferences
- AP Digital Pathology Site Visits, Exec Leadership Strategy
- Chemistry Mass Spec, insourcing of drugs of abuse confirmation at WF
- Education -
  - Working with Carolinas Health Sciences Program in CLT to bring students to WF (in process with more in the pipeline)
  - Planning stages of a NC CE/CME course, AHEC CLT Support, Atrium Sponsorship (Catarella)





# Integration Accomplishments – Enterprise Tracker Gary Catarella

- Twelve Initiatives Completed
- Testing Internalization Strategies Deployed, Outreach Billing Enhancement, Equipment & Service Optimization
- 2022 Cost savings = \$3,024,752
- 2023 Initiatives Identified
  - Expansion of Drugs of Abuse Testing
  - Patient Blood & Anemia Management
  - New Internalization Strategies Identified





# Discovery Team Leaders

Laboratory Services





**Dan Mumm**President ACL Laboratories

Years with Organization: 31

Legacy Organization: Advocate Aurora Health



## Gary Catarella, MBA MT (ASCP)

Enterprise VP, Laboratory Services

Years with Organization: 9

Legacy Organization: Atrium Health

#### Laboratory Services Synergy Roadmap

#### Together we are one of the largest non-profit health system laboratories in the country

#### **Learnings about Advocate Aurora Health**

- Technology and processes are standardized, resulting in efficiencies
- Robust test menu results in decreased dependency on reference testing
- In-sourced courier services helps drive client and consumer experience
- Advantageous for-profit outreach business model (A2CL): established in the market

#### **Learnings about Atrium Health**

- Enterprise shared service that operates in a hub & spoke lab model in all regions & markets
- Nationally recognized faculty in clinical & anatomic pathology
- Pathology Residency & Fellowship Program
- National Institute of Health grant-funded research Comparative Medicine Program

#### **TOGETHER WE CAN**

- 50M tests per year to diagnose, drive outcomes and enhance patient experience, generating \$1.5B Net Revenue (inclusive of \$107M outreach revenue)
- Provide more affordable lab testing
- Execute **robust in-source strategy** by leveraging crossregion laboratory medicine & pathology expertise
- Revolutionize our lab outreach business in the markets and regions we serve
- Accelerate laboratory automation
- Train the next generation of laboratorians

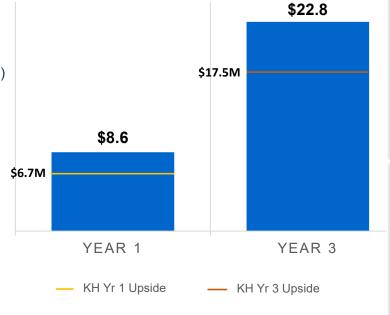
Shared focus on **operational efficiencies & leveraging scale**We are **more alike than different!** 

#### We have identified nearly \$23M in synergy opportunities by the end of Year 3, with \$8.6M by end of Year 1

#### **Synergy Highlights**

- Cost Per Test Improvement
  - Referral Testing (Y1: \$2M)
  - Lab Supplies (Y1: \$1.5M, Y3: \$8.5M)
- Lab Outreach/Business Development Growth (Y1: \$1.6M, Y3: \$4.8M)
- Utilization Informatics Cost Savings (Y1: \$1M, Y3: \$2.5M)
- Ambulatory Service Model Alignment (Y1: \$2.5M, Y3: \$5M)

All Gross Opportunities



#### **Operating Model & Investment Dependencies**

- Supply Chain team contracting effort (Cost Per Test)
- Capital Process for Speed to Value in Lab Reagent category (Cost Per Test)
- Outreach Business Plan (ROI) (Lab Outreach)
- CMIO (Utilization Informatics)
- HIT Enhancements/Interfaces/Support (Lab, Outreach)
- Stakeholder Buy-In (Ambulatory Service Model)
- System Lab Diagnostic Committee / standard test menu to maximize utilization/value
- To realize the upside synergy value an investment of ~\$3M is required
- \*\*Net synergy value excludes a combination of operating / capital investment

#### Big Ideas

- Be the **national leader in Lab 2.0** with use of digital enablers (digital pathology, AI, EMR enhancements)
- Launch Genomic Testing to advance Precision Medicine offerings
- Develop a **Direct-to-Consumer** business line (e.g., retail, at home kits)
- Expand Research Lab footprint (e.g., biorepositories, novel research testing, 3rd party data partnerships)

#### Parking Lot

Potential revenue improvement related to denial improvement Revenue Cycle)

## 2023 - What's Next (AP)

- Recruitment Haodong Xu arrives Feb. 20, other recruitments continue...
- EPIC Harmonization
  - SME will be in work groups reviewing workflows in Encompass
  - Pathologists can engage CPG pathologists to see how cases are signed out, stains ordered, templates (standardization)
  - If there are potential problems in workflow, engage Nate Weaver and LKS, Julie Simmons (CP)
- Complete planned consensus conferences
  - Will be tasked with best practice PathCare documentation and implementation (Standardization)
  - Each consensus conference to consider collaborative research projects
- Digital Pathology Enterprise strategy is being developed
  - Use cases to be prioritized, implementation of IHC delivery by digital pathology
  - Capital planning
  - Epredia FDA Clinical Trial (joint WF/HP/CPG pathologists effort) Q2 start





## 2023 – What's Next (CP)

- Molecular Diagnostics
  - Strategy for germline genetic testing and Molecular Oncology WES/WGS
  - IPAT business plan for NGS to support myeloid panels for CPG and Novant
  - DuoSeq validation with BIQSFP funding for NCTN Intergroup phase 2/3 trial in DLBCL
- Chemistry
  - IPAT business plan for mass spectrometry COE to include faculty and testing personnel
- TM, Molecular, and Microbiology Workgroups Chartered and begin meeting
  - PBM/AM
  - Standardization vs Centralization
    - Enterprise strategy for automation in microbiology
    - Coordination of molecular diagnostics testing





#### 2023 - What's Next

#### Space Planning

- Continue Autopsy Center and Preclinical Imaging Center
- Working with Executive Leadership to determine next steps and capital planning

#### Education

- Complete planning for CE/CME course
  - Topics/faculty invitation/advertising
  - Secure funding
  - Date TBD (Q4 2023, Greensboro, NC)
- Explore development of an elective rotation for residents at CMC/Airport

#### Sustainability

• Form committee, engage consultant, and develop initiative(s) for implementation in 2023.





### 2023 - What's Next

- Integration
  - Southeast Region Retreat in WS planned for March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023





# Thank You!!!



