

September
2026

The Culture and Belonging Committee welcomes your ideas! Please use this QR code, or [link](#), to submit anonymous suggestions, comments or concerns.



ACL: [eTAT Newsletters](#)

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SCAN ME



THE LAUGH LAB

Doctor: “Nurse, how is the kid who swallowed 10 quarters yesterday doing?”

Nurse: “No change yet.”

Why did the football coach shake the vending machine?

He wanted a quarterback!

YOUR PATH REPORT

Chair's Message:

As we move beyond the excitement of welcoming a new academic year, September offers an opportunity to focus on growth. Growth occurs through mentorship, collaboration, constructive feedback, and a shared commitment to helping one another succeed. It is also strengthened when people feel valued and appreciated for their contributions.

This month we celebrate **Teammate Appreciation Week** and recognize that the success of our department is built on the dedication of our faculty, trainees, staff, and laboratory professionals. Every diagnosis rendered, learner mentored, research project advanced, and patient served reflects the collective efforts of individuals working together toward a common purpose. By supporting one another and recognizing these contributions, we strengthen our ability to advance Advocate Health's purpose of helping people live well and delivering exceptional care to the communities we serve.

I encourage each of us to take time to recognize a colleague, express gratitude, share knowledge, or provide meaningful feedback that supports growth and development. Small acts of appreciation can have a lasting impact and help create a culture where everyone feels supported, connected, and empowered to thrive. **Thank you** for all that you do to advance our missions and for making our department and labs a special place to learn, work, and grow.

- Diana Cardona MD, MBA, FCAP

FOR YOUR AWARENESS

- [Remote Desktop Access Change](#); Beyond Trust [Instructions](#)
- Workday Expense [Changes](#)
- [The Pulse](#): Staying connected, wherever you work. Whether you work at a desk or move between locations throughout the day, The Pulse, your one source for Advocate Health updates, puts personalized news and tools in one place.
- **New Faculty and Leadership Development Series!** In response to recent feedback and our commitment to continuous professional growth, the Department of Pathology is launching a new development series designed for faculty and lab leadership at all career stages. The series will provide practical strategies for effective communication, leadership, collaboration, mentorship, and professional development.

Session #2: September 2 - Giving Feedback That Changes Behavior - Cara Haberman, MD

Session #3: October 28 - Receiving Feedback Without Becoming Defensive - Cara Haberman, MD

Session #4: November 4 - Strategies to Increase Efficiency and Impact with AI - Jaspal Singh, MD

WELCOME NEW TEAMMATES

- **Joseph Geradts, PhD**, joins faculty as Professor, Surgical Pathology/Breast (Part Time) starting 9/8/26.
- **Gregory LaRocco**, joins as Director of Lab Services for AP starting on 9/8/26.

Stay up to date by following us!
Insta: wakepath
X: Atrium_WakePath



Wake Forest University
School of Medicine



Atrium Health



ADVOCATE HEALTH

INTERESTING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Sept. 9:** Grand Rounds – Dr. Mahesheema Ali, PhD, DABCC, NRCC, FAACC, presents “*Diagnostic Stewardship in Laboratory Medicine: Evidence-Based Approaches to Appropriate Test Utilization*”
- **Sept. 23:** Grand Rounds – Dr. Deyin Xing, MD, PhD presents “*Non-gestational Trophoblastic Neoplasms: Concept, Origin and Precision Diagnosis*”
- **By Sept. 11:** Help Us Showcase the Art of Pathology & our Labs! As part of our ongoing department beautification efforts, we invite faculty, trainees, and staff to submit high-quality images that showcase the beauty, science, and impact of pathology. Submissions should include a title and brief description and must be free of patient identifiers. Please send entries to Diana Cardona and Jodee Spencer by **September 11**. Selected images may be displayed throughout the department, highlighting the talent, creativity, and visual beauty of our field.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 3: Navigating Difficult Times [meditation](#)
- Sept 9: [Collaboration in Action](#): The event will help advance partnerships in cardiovascular, stroke and AI-driven health research.
- Sept 10: Clinician Treatment of Self, Family and Colleagues [webinar](#)
- Sept 22: [Fall into Well-Being](#): When Life Changes, Don't Leave Yourself Behind
- Sept. 22: [Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Schwartz Rounds](#)
- Sept. 22: [Public Health Sciences Grand Rounds](#)
- Sept. 24: [Join Us for the First Annual Clarkson Field Day & Picnic!](#)
- Oct. 8: The Q4 “For All Day” All labs and departments are encouraged to participate and submit photos from your event.
- Oct. 23: Belonging in Healthcare Conference; Register [here!](#)

FACULTY AND LABORATORY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Mark Baxter, PhD**, co-authored the article “*Comparative Insights into Insula Structure and Function*,” recently published in [Nature Neuroscience](#).
- **Joanna Van Noy, MD** – “I just want to give a shout out to **Desiree Echevarria** in the AP Support office for always being so helpful and professional when assisting me with Wilkes cases that need send out testing or special handling. She is very knowledgeable and often goes above and beyond to help me even when she is probably busy doing other tasks. I can always count on her to answer my questions or point me in the right direction. I really appreciate all she does!”
- **Lynne Rosenblum, PhD, FACMG** - On September 1st, Dr. Lynne Rosenblum took on the role of Co-Chair of the Technologies SIG of the International Society for Prenatal Diagnosis.
- **Elizabeth Palavecino, MD** - co-authored a recently published position [paper](#) in Clinical Infectious Diseases that provides guidance to help hospitals strengthen infection-related aspects of sepsis care. The paper is [endorsed](#) by multiple professional organizations, including IDSA, ACEP, ASM, PIDS, SCCM, SHEA, SHM, and SIDP. Dr. Palavecino was the only clinical microbiologist selected to represent the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) on the expert panel that developed this important guidance document. Congratulations to Dr. Palavecino on this significant professional achievement!
- [2026 CAP Election Results!](#) **Dr. Diana Cardona** was elected to the Board of Governors for the College of America Pathologists (CAP). Elected by her peers, it's a significant recognition of her leadership, expertise, and trusted voice within the pathology community. The role is important for CAP and Advocate because it strengthens our ability to advance laboratory excellence, shape national policy, and represent the priorities of pathologists and laboratory leaders at a pivotal time for health care.
- **Emmanuel Fadeyi, MD - The Blood Bank team** contributed to the publication of “*Cold and Room-Temperature Platelets in Cardiac Surgery: The CHIPS Randomized Clinical Trial*,” recently published in [JAMA](#). This Phase 3, multicenter randomized clinical trial compared cold-stored platelets with standard room-temperature-stored platelets in adult and pediatric patients undergoing cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass. The study demonstrated that cold-stored platelets were non-inferior to room-temperature platelets,

with findings that may help increase platelet availability by reducing wastage and shortages. Congratulations to the Blood Bank team on this significant publication and collaborative achievement!

- Updated Comparative Medicine Publications **(submitted by Rachel Williams)**:
 - [Serum Pro-N-Cadherin Correlates With Cardiac Injury in the Radiation Late Effects Cohort of Nonhuman Primates - PubMed](#)
 - [Contrast enhanced ultrasound and laser doppler flowmetry capture distinct aspects of tissue microvascular perfusion in nonhuman primates](#)
 - [Developing and internally validating AI-based aging resilience biomarkers in non-human primates - PubMed](#)
 - [The Detection of Radiation Effects in the Urine of Rhesus Macaques Using Raman Spectroscopy - PubMed](#)
 - [Total-body Irradiation Reduces Cerebrovascular Reactivity in Rhesus Macaques \(Macaca mulatta\) - PubMed](#)
 - [Progestin and vitamin D synergistically inhibit fallopian tube carcinogenesis - PubMed](#)
 - [γ-Radiation Induces Long-Term Dose-Related Proteomic and Phosphorylated-Tau Species Changes in Non-Human Primate Hippocampus - PubMed](#)
 - [Intravascular Adenomyosis in a Cynomolgus Macaque \(Macaca Fascicularis\) - PubMed](#)
 - [Comparative insights into insula structure and function – Nature Neuroscience](#)

WHAT OUR RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS ARE UP TO

- The Pathology Residency Program hosted a **successful virtual open house on August 25**, providing prospective applicants with an opportunity to learn more about our training programs, faculty, and resident experience. The program will begin interviewing candidates for the **2027-2028 academic year on October 22!**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our annual department baseball game. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the new academic year, welcome new colleagues, and enjoy a favorite American pastime together with food and fireworks. We hope to see you all next year!!

Look at some photos from the event on the next page 😊

2nd Annual Department Baseball Game | 8/29

