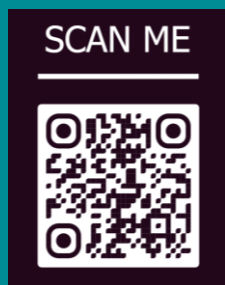


March 2026

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



👉 [Click here to share your updates](#) or use this QR code



THE LAUGH LAB

A four-leaf clover is rare.

So is a specimen that arrives properly labeled, oriented, and intact.

Why can't you borrow money from a leprechaun?

Because they're always a little short.

What kind of bow can't be tied?

A rainbow.

YOUR PATH REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

🌿 A Little Green, A Lot of Heart: March Reflections

March arrives with longer days, a hint of spring, and a reminder that small acts can make a meaningful difference. Maya Angelou once encouraged us to ***be a rainbow in someone else's cloud***—a powerful image of choosing kindness, presence, and encouragement. Every day, in ways both visible and behind the scenes, our faculty, staff, and trainees show up for one another and for our patients. A thoughtful consult, a moment of mentorship, stepping in to help a colleague, or simply offering grace during a busy day—these are the quiet rainbows that sustain our culture and our mission.

As we celebrate **St. Patrick's Day**, often associated with luck and all things green, let's remember that the "luck" we experience as a department and laboratory is built on people - teamwork, compassion, and shared purpose. The true pot of gold is the community we continue to create together: one rooted in excellence, respect, and belonging.

🍀 Wishing you a meaningful—and maybe a little lucky—month ahead.

- Diana Cardona, MD, MBA

FOR YOUR AWARENESS

- **File for USB-use exception now.** Beginning March 16 for NC & GA and Q3 for IL and WI, teammates will no longer be able to transfer (write) content to USB devices [without an approved exception](#). Personal use will not be approved per the Acceptable Use Policy ([IL/WI](#) | [NC/GA](#)). [Additional Info](#).
- [Ardmore Tower West SB Corridor Closure from Feb. 23 to April 1](#)
- Reminder: Cisco Voicemail Server Aging Policy in Effect; [Delete Messages Permanently](#)
- [Badge/Security Office](#) Relocated to Gray Building
- **ACL:** [eTAT Newsletters](#)

INTERESTING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Each day, do one simple thing to support your team.** Share a suggestion, recognize a win or give honest feedback. These small connections strengthen relationships and care. [Discover more in Engagement 101](#).
- Monthly Grand Rounds – March 11th (8:30 - 9:30 a.m): Dr. Mark Zaydman, MD, PhD presents "AI Algorithms Applications in Clinical Labs."
- State of the School 2026. Join Dean Boulware March 19 for our [annual enterprise-wide update](#) highlighting 2025 accomplishments, what's ahead for Wake Forest University School of Medicine and how academic medicine strengthens care delivery and expands its impact across Advocate Health. [Share questions anonymously](#) ahead of the virtual event.
- [New Recognition](#) Platform Launches March 2nd.
- Register Now: [Celebrate Research! 2026](#)
- [Lab & Pathology Art Contest!](#) Show us your creative side!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 5: [Live meditation with Headspace: Prioritizing Sleep](#)
- March 13: [Understanding DAX Copilot: How AI is Enhancing Clinical Care](#)
- March 24: [Courageous Conversations panel discussion](#)
- April: [Celebrate Research! 2026](#)
- April 30: [FOR ALL Conference](#)

Stay up to date by following us!

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Wake Forest University
School of Medicine



Atrium Health



ADVOCATE HEALTH

FACULTY AND LABORATORY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Mark Cline, DVM, PhD, DACVP - Fitriya Nur Annisa Dewi, DVM, PhD** was recently named Director of the Primate Research Center of the Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB or Bogor Agricultural Institute) in Bogor, Indonesia. Dr. Dewi is an alumna of the Wake Forest University School of Medicine's Molecular Pathology graduate program, where she was mentored by Dr. Mark Cline. Her PhD work focused on the antiestrogenic cancer-protective effects of soy isoflavones on the development and differentiation of the breast. Her appointment to this leadership position highlights the success of the long-standing partnership between WFUSM and the IPB for training in research, pathology, and laboratory animal medicine.
- **Diana Cardona, MD, MBA** - In this new Patient Power [article](#), Dr. Diana Cardona shares insights on how cancer patients can better track and understand their lab results—making care feel a little less overwhelming and a lot more informed. Check out the full piece to learn practical tips for staying organized, asking the right questions, and taking an active role in your healthcare journey.
- **Mark Giffen, DO** was named to the Editorial Board for the Pathology/Biology section of the Journal of Forensics Sciences. His 5-year appointment was approved by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Board of Directors at their annual meeting. Congratulations Dr. Giffen!
- **Thomas Register, PhD** have been selected as a recipient of the 2025 Wake Forest University School of Medicine *Established Investigator – Basic/Translational Science Award*. Congratulations Dr. Register!
- **Melissa Saner and Felicia Wilson** did an amazing job coordinating a department-wide food drive for Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Oncology patients. The food drive was a huge success, and we received the following message from Carrie Galloway at the Cancer Center: “Many thanks to your department for all the donations! You help keep the Cancer Center Food Pantry well-stocked for our patients in need, and your generosity is much appreciated.



Fitriya Nur Annisa Dewi and Mark Cline



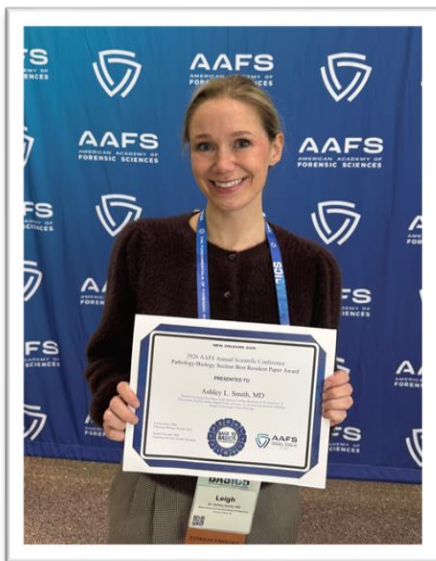
Melissa Saner and Felicia Wilson



A SPECIAL
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

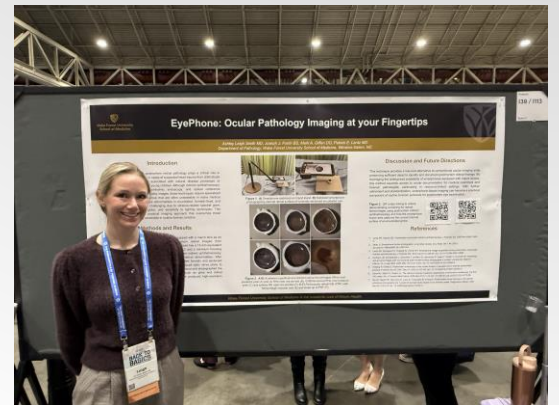
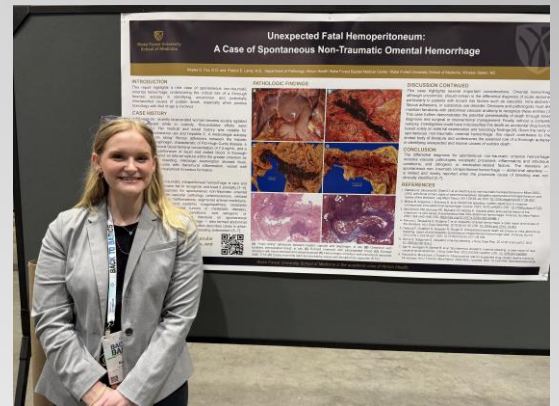
WHAT OUR RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS ARE UP TO

- Congratulations to **Ashley Leigh Smith, MD, and Kaylee D. Fox, DO**, for their achievements at the 78th Annual Scientific Conference of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), held February 9–14, 2026, in New Orleans, LA! Both were approved for membership into the AAFS and presented impactful posters. Dr. Smith showcased *“EyePhone: Ocular Pathology Imaging at Your Fingertips,”* highlighting innovative approaches to ocular pathology imaging, while Dr. Fox shared a rare forensic case report, *“Unexpected Fatal Hemoperitoneum: A Case of Spontaneous Non-traumatic Omental Hemorrhage,”* describing a rare and fatal forensic pathology finding. 
- Special shoutout to **Ashley Leigh Smith, MD** for winning the Pathology/Biology Section Best Resident Paper Award with her research, *“Retinal Fold Apical Attachment of the Internal Limiting Membrane Is Not Diagnostic of Vitreoretinal Traction during Alleged Cycles of Ocular Acceleration–Deceleration (Shaking): Insights from Lange’s Fold Histology.”*



Ashley Leigh Smith

AAFS 2026!



Kaylee D. Fox and Ashley Leigh Smith