

## Faculty Highlight: Ron Strauss, M.D.

### VISION STATEMENT

To be an international leader in academic pathology and laboratory medicine

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Pathology is committed to serving:

- Patients, by providing innovative care, excellent service, and exceptional outcomes, with pathology and laboratory medicine of the highest quality
- Current and future generations of health care providers and biomedical scientists, by providing opportunities to learn using innovative educational methods in a supportive environment
- Society, by using scientific discovery to develop a better understanding of human disease
- Our employees, by providing an environment and culture that supports continuous professional growth, respect for diversity, and acknowledges that their contributions are the foundation for our success

Ronald G. Strauss, M.D. has been a part of the Department of Pathology since 1976. He never planned to spend his entire career here at Iowa, “but here I am.” The reason he stayed in the area was because the University of Iowa and Iowa City “offered the environment allowing me to pursue a career that I wanted and for my wife and I to raise our family.”

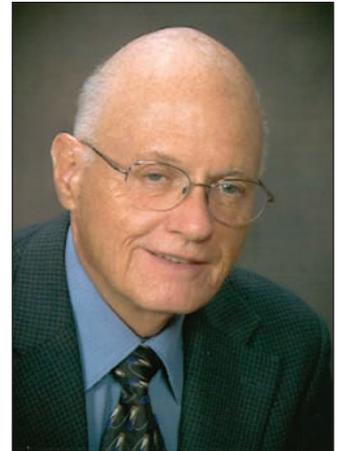
Dr. Strauss was Medical Director of the DeGowin Blood Center at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics from 1983 until 2005.

Dr. Strauss retired from the Departments of Pathology and Pediatrics on July 1, 2008 and joined the ranks of Professor Emeritus. He was honored at a reception in the East Room and the speakers included department head Dr. Michael Cohen, DeGowin Blood Center Director Dr. Tom Raife, and long time associates Judy Levitt and Char Elbert.

In a short speech, Dr. Strauss offered thanks to the UIHC and the Department of Pathology for giving him the chance to run the DeGowin Blood Center. He also recounted the many Fellows in Transfusion Medicine that he had mentored over the years who have gone on to successful careers in academic medical centers across the country.

Recently, Ron was selected as the recipient of the American Association of Blood Banks’ 2008 Emily Cooley Memorial Award and Lectureship. Ron received the award at the 2008 Annual Meeting held in Montreal Quebec, Canada. This award recognizes scientific and teaching ability and the demonstration of strength in the technical aspects of immunohematology and transfusion medical or cellular therapies.

Ron will continue to be active in a number of national and international medical and scientific organizations as well as several community organizations.



## Distinguished Achievement Award - 2007

Diane Davis Davey, M.D.

The University of Iowa Department of Pathology Distinguished Achievement Award was created in 2003 to honor individual faculty, alumni, and friends of the Department who have made significant and enduring clinical or scientific contributions in pathology.

The Department is pleased to announce Diane Davis Davey, M.D. as the 2007 recipient of the Department of Pathology Distinguished Achievement Award.

Dr. Davey is Professor and Vice-Chair for Education in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. She has specialty certification in both Cytopathology and Hematopathology. She is Director of the Cytopathology Laboratory and the Bone Marrow Service. Areas of clinical interest include gynecologic cytology, fine needle aspiration cytology of the breast and other sites, leukemias and myeloproliferative disorders. She has clinical research interests particularly in cytology including quality assurance/improvement. Dr. Davey has served on FDA, NCI, and American Cancer Society advisory committees and serves on 4 editorial boards including Cancer Cytopathology and Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. She was a moderator for the NCI Bethesda 2001 cervical cytology terminology workshop. She is a Trustee for the American Board of Pathology, and has been active in a number of pathology and cytology societies (Past-President of the American Society of Cytopathology (2001-2), Past-Chair of the College of American Pathologists Cytopathology Resource Committee).



## Walter L. Beirring Professorship of Clinical Education

Nancy Rosenthal, M.D.

The Department of Pathology has established the Walter L. Beirring Professorship of Clinical Education. Dr. Beirring is arguably the first true Head of the Department of Pathology, serving from 1883-1903. This endowed professorship was established to recognize faculty teaching efforts predominantly in a clinical setting.

It is our distinct pleasure to announce that Nancy Rosenthal, M.D., has been named the first Walter L. Beirring Professor. Dr. Rosenthal is a past recipient of the Pathology Resident's Teaching Award and in 2002 received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). Based on the honors she has received for her teaching effectiveness it is clear that she is a talented educator. We hope you will all join us in congratulating Dr. Rosenthal for the prestigious honor of being named the first Walter L. Beirring Professor.



## George D. Penick Award for Excellence in Education

Ryan Askeland, M.D.

This year, Ryan Askeland, M.D., was the recipient of the George D. Penick Award for Excellence in Education. The award is given to the house staff member who displays the highest level of achievement in educating medical students, clinical colleagues, paramedical personnel and each other. Ryan's name will be added to the Penick Award plaque displayed in Pathology Administration.



## Resident Teaching Award

Robert A. Robinson, M.D., Ph.D.

This year's recipient of the annual Faculty Teaching Award is Bob Robinson, M.D., Ph.D. This award is given each year to a faculty member in the Department of Pathology who displays exemplary teaching and mentoring skills while working with the residents. Dr. Robinson was presented with an award certificate and his name will also be added to the teaching award plaque displayed in Pathology Administration.



## Megan Danton Award

Brian Chapman

Each year the Pathology residents select an individual to receive the Megan C. Danton Staff Teaching Award. This award is given annually to a non-faculty person who does an outstanding job of educating and training residents in his or her field of expertise. We are very pleased to announce Brian Chapman has been selected as this year's recipient. Brian was presented with an award certificate, and his name will be added to the teaching award plaque displayed in Pathology Administration.



## Emily Cooley Memorial Award and Lectureship

Ronald G. Strauss, M.D.

Ronald G. Strauss, M.D, has been selected as the recipient of American Association of Blood Banks' 2008 Emily Cooley Memorial Award and Lectureship. This award recognizes scientific and teaching ability and the demonstration of strength in the technical aspects of immunohematology and transfusion medical or cellular therapies. Dr. Strauss will be presented the award at the 2008 Annual Meeting held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.



## Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award

Michael B. Cohen, M.D.

Michael Cohen, M.D., was selected as the faculty recipient of the 2007 Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award presented by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation. This award was established to recognize and honor faculty members and students who demonstrate outstanding compassion in the delivery of care, respect for patients, families and health-care colleagues, as well as demonstrated clinical excellence.



## Election to Alpha Omega Alpha Honors

Frank A. Mitros, M.D.

Frank Mitros, M.D., has been initiated into Alpha Omega Alpha, a national honor medical society. In recognition of high attainment and excellence in medical science, practice and related fields, the society elects outstanding medical students, alumni and faculty members to its ranks. Dr. Mitros was one of two UI medical faculty that was elected this year. Congratulations Dr. Mitros.



# Pathology ABCD Awards



Leslie Bruch, M.D., Bob Robinson, M.D., Fred Dee, M.D., Tom Waldschmidt, Ph.D. and Frank Mitros, M.D.

## Research Awards

Dr. Gary Baumbach received a competitive renewal of a collaborating research program project grant with Dr. Frank Faraci from Internal Medicine. This continuation is with the National Institutes of Health for a research project titled Cerebral Vascular Biology Program Project Grant. The project spans over a 25 year period and will bring a total of \$23,171,177 to the University of Iowa. This current competitive renewal is for the period of April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2013.

Dr. Aaron Bossler has a new research contract negotiated with Roche, Inc. for a research project titled Diamond Study: A Multicenter Co-Sponsored Study Regarding the Use of HCV Reagents with the COBAS AmpliPrep/COBAS TaqMan Systems. The contract total is \$3,500. This contract is for the period of April 22, 2008 through April 9, 2010.

Dr. Siu Lung (Kelvin) Chan received a Postdoctoral Fellowship Award from the American Heart Association. Dr. Chan is a Postdoctoral Fellow working with Dr. Gary Baumbach. The title of his project is Role of Reactive Oxygen Species in Angiotensin II-Mediated Remodeling in Cerebral Arterioles. This award is for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009. The amount of this two-year award is \$85,000.

Congratulations to Dr. Fred Dee. He received a notice of R01 funding from the National Institutes of Health. The title of the project is Competencies Training and Assessment in Laboratory Medicine Using Patient Simulations. This award is for the period of March 1, 2007 through February 28, 2011. The amount of this award is \$1,062,000.

Congratulations to Dr. Barry DeYoung who recently received notice that a Carver Collaborative Pilot Grant he is involved with has been funded from the Carver College of Medicine Research Committee at the University of Iowa. This collaborative effort is with the pilot grant PI, Dr. Moshe Wald (Department of Urology), Surya Mallapragada (Iowa State University) and Dr. DeYoung. The title of the project is Biodegradable Grafts for Reconstruction of the Male Reproductive Tract. This award is for the period of February 1, 2007 through January 31, 2009. The amount of the award is \$40,000.

Congratulations to Dr. Daniel Diekema. He has had a research continuation contract negotiated with Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, Inc. for a research project titled ARTEMIS Collection 2007. The contract total is \$224,875. This contract is for the period of January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007. He also has had a research contract negotiated with Optimer Pharmaceuticals, Inc. for a research project titled Evaluation of the In Vitro Activity of OP-001068 and OP-001516 Against a Diverse Collection of Candida, Asperigillus, Fusarium, Mucor and Rhizopus spp. The contract total is \$7,500. This contract is for the period of August 15, 2007 through December 31, 2008.

In addition, Dr. Diekema has had a research contract negotiated with Astellas Pharma, Inc. for a research project titled Evaluation of the Etest Method for Determining Micafungin Susceptibilities of Invasive Clinical Isolates of Fungi. The contract total is \$26,375. This contract is for the period of January 29, 2007 through June 25, 2008.

Dr. Daniel Diekema has a new research contract negotiated with Pfizer, Inc. for a research project titled Geographic Distribution and Antifungal Susceptibility of the Newly Described Species Candida orthopsilosis, Candida metapsilosis and Candida nivariensis. The contract total is \$33,125. This contract is for the period of April 22, 2008 through August 1, 2008.

Additionally, Dr. Diekema has had a new research contract negotiated with Merck & Company, Inc. for a research project titled Geographic Distribution and Antifungal Susceptibility of the Newly Described Species Candida orthopsilosis, in Comparison to the Closely-Related Species Candida parapsilosis. The contract total is \$33,144. This contract is for the period of November 5, 2007 through October 31, 2008.

Dr. Gary Doern has had a research contract negotiated with the Schering-Plough Corporation for a research project titled RASP (Resistance Assessment by Schering-Plough). This nearly two-year contract total is \$951,219, with an additional third year contract extension with funding if agreed upon by both parties in the amount of \$493,500; bringing the entire award to the amount of \$1,444,719. This contract is for the period of September 14, 2007 through June 30, 2009, with the possibility of additional funding through June 30, 2010.

Dr. Jonathan Heusel and Dr. Kevin Legge, Co-Principal Investigators, received a notice of R21 funding from the National Institutes of Health. The title of the project is Innate Immune Control of Influenza Virus Infection. This award is for the period of September 25, 2007 through August 31, 2009. The amount of this award is \$405,363.

Dr. Kevin Legge also received a notice of grant funding from the American Lung Association. The title of the project is Respiratory Dendritic Cells: Cell Migration and Induction of Adaptive Immunity During Virus Infections. This award is for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. The amount of this award is \$40,000 direct funds for Year 1 with the potential of a Year 2 funding up to \$40,000 direct funds. In addition, Dr. Legge received a notice of R21 funding from the National Institutes of Health. The title of the project is Role of TRAIL in Immunity to Influenza Virus Infections. This award is for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009. The amount of this award is \$412,500.

Dr. Siegfried Janz has a new collaborating research contract with Dr. Christina Chang from the Institute of Molecular Medicine, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan. This contract is with the National Cheng Kung University for a research project titled Functional Genomic Approach for Discovery of Molecular Mechanisms and Therapeutic Targets (DMMaTT) of Human Cancer. The contract total is \$8,211. This contract is for the period of July 1, 2008 through August 31, 2008.

Dr. Siegfried Janz also has had a new research contract negotiated with Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc for a research project titled iMycCa and BclXL Transgenic Mice. The contract total is \$111,265. This contract is for the period of March 24, 2008 through March 23, 2009.

Congratulations to Dr. Siegfried Janz who received a SPORE Developmental Research Project seed funding awarded from the Developmental Research and Executive Committees of the University of Iowa/Mayo Lymphoma SPORE. The title of the project is Comparative oncogenomics of B cell and plasma cell neoplasms in mice and human beings. This award is for the period of February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009. The amount of the award is \$50,000.

Congratulations to Dr. Kevin Legge. He received a notice of R01 funding from the National Institutes of Health. The title of the project is Role of Dendritic Cells in Immunity to Pulmonary Influenza Virus Infections. This award is for the period of April 15, 2007 through March 31, 2012. The amount of this award is \$1,819,617.

Dr. Steven Moore received two awards to fund a Congenital Muscular Dystrophy Workshop at the University of Iowa. The primary goal of this workshop is to bring together members of the clinical and basic science communities with an interest in CMDs to assess the current state of knowledge in the field and to foster future collaborative efforts. Dr. Moore was awarded \$13,216 from the Muscular Dystrophy Association and \$36,280 from the National Institutes of Health. A total of \$49,496 was awarded to fund this workshop.

Dr. Vishala Neppalli has a new collaborating research contract with Dr. Charles Lynch from Epidemiology. This contract is with the National Institutes of Health for a research project titled Defining Molecular Subtypes of Lymphoma for Relevance to Survival, Etiology and Diagnosis. The contract total is \$71,815. This contract is for the period of September 15, 2007 through September 14, 2008.

Congratulations to Dr. Sandra Richter. She has had a new research contract negotiated with Becton Dickinson & Company for a research project titled Product Evaluation: Phoenix and Vitek 2 Detection of MRSA. The contract total is \$47,213. This contract is for the period of December 28, 2007 through December 31, 2009.

Congratulations to Dr. Ronald Strauss. He has had a competitive research cooperative agreement renewed with the National Institutes of Health for a research project titled Transfusion Medicine/Hemostasis Clinical Research Network. The funding for the administrative operation for the entire project agreement period is \$937,500. In addition, subject reimbursement will be paid based on enrollment up to \$1,125,000 for the duration of the project. This agreement is for the period of September 1, 2007 through August 31, 2012.

Dr. Van Tompkins received a new a Postdoctoral Fellowship Award from the American Cancer Society. Dr. Tompkins is a Postdoctoral Fellow working with Dr. Siegfried Janz. The title of his project is The Role of NIAM in B-Cell and Plasma Cell Neoplasia. This award is for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011. The amount of this three-year award is \$126,000.

Congratulations to Dr. Robert Tucker. He has had a research contract negotiated with ATI Medical, inc. for a research project titled Testing of Topical Coagulation Device and Comparison with Other Devices. The contract total is \$20,000. This contract is for the period of April 9, 2007 through December 31, 2008.

Dr. Tucker also has had a research contract negotiated with Medical Murray, inc. for a research project titled Minimally Invasive Tissue Tightening Device. The contract total is \$20,000. This contract is for the period of May 8, 2007 through December 31, 2008.

## Best Doctors in America - 2007

Pathology Faculty members Jo Ann Benda, M.D., Leslie Bruch, M.D.\*, Michael Cohen, M.D., Barry De Young, M.D., Daniel Diekema, M.D., Chris Jensen, MD\*, Frank Mitros, M.D., Steven Moore, M.D., Ph.D.\*, Robert Robinson, M.D., Ph.D., Nancy Rosenthal, M.D.\*, and Ronald Strauss, M.D.\* have been selected for inclusion in the 2007 “Best Doctors in America” database.

\* = new to list this year

## New Faculty

### Vladimir Badovinac, Ph.D. Assistant Professor

Dr. Badovinac joined the Department of Pathology in December, 2007 as an Assistant Professor. Dr. Badovinac received a Ph.D. from the Institute for Biological Research in the School of Medicine at the University of Belgrade in 1999. That same year he was recruited by Dr. John Harty, in the Department of Microbiology at the University of Iowa as a postdoctoral trainee. The focus of Dr. Badovinac's work has been on T cell memory development, which is a critical area of research since it relates to a number of important areas that have clinical relevance, e.g. vaccine development. His research focus complements the immunologic research program within the Department of Pathology.

### Yasuko Erickson, M.D. Clinical Assistant Professor

Dr. Erickson was appointed as a Clinical Assistant Professor in July, 2008. Dr. Erickson received her M.D. from the University of Utah. In 2003 she entered our residency program in clinical pathology, which she completed in 2006. Following this Yasuko became a Transfusion Medicine Fellow that she finished in June, 2008. Her clinical activities are predominantly at the VA where she is the Director of the Chemistry Laboratory as well as the Blood Bank. Her clinical activities at UI Health Care are focused in the Transfusion Medicine service based in the DeGowin Blood Center.

### Siegfried Janz, M.D. Professor

Dr. Janz was appointed as a Professor in Pathology in March, 2007. Siegfried's recruitment was a joint effort between the Department of Pathology and the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center. The Department was interested in enhancing its tumor biology research program and the Cancer Center was interested in identifying a director of its genetics program.

Dr. Janz received his education in Germany where he received his M.D. degree in 1985 from Leipzig University and a D.Sc. degree in 1995 from the same institution. In 1995 he joined the Laboratory of Genetics at the National Cancer Institute where he had an outstanding career.

Siegfried's research focus is in myeloma and he has developed numerous unique animal models to help answer fundamental questions about B cell neoplasia,

and neoplasia in general. He also serves as Leader of the Cancer Genetics and Computational Biology Program in the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center.

### Stacey Klutts, M.D., Ph.D. Assistant Professor

Dr. Klutts was appointed as an Assistant Professor in Pathology in August, 2007. His clinical activity will be focused at the VA where he will direct the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory. At the University of Iowa he will provide backup coverage in the Section Clinical Microbiology Lab.. Dr. Klutts graduated from the University of Arkansas with both a M.D. and a Ph.D. In 2002 he began his residency training in laboratory medicine at Washington University where he also completed postdoctoral training. During that time he published about a half dozen papers in his area of research interest: glycosyltransferases in fungi. Stacey's work at Washington University focused on *Cryptococcus* and he will extend that work here at The University of Iowa with a focus on *Aspergillus*.

## Co-Chief Residents for 2008-2009

I am pleased to announce that Elizabeth Manion and Nathan Lueck have been selected to serve as Co-Chief Residents for 2008-2009. They will begin assuming duties of the chief resident immediately.

Be sure to thank Adam Bell and Michelle Bleile for an outstanding job over the last year as Co-Chief Residents. In addition to their more obvious responsibilities, they have been excellent behind the scenes in maintaining the quality and stability of the program.

Fred Dee

## New Residents

### John Blau, M.D.

1st year resident in Pathology; Medical School: University of Colorado, 2008

Training Goals: Combined AP/CP

### Michael Gailey, D.O.

1st year resident in Pathology; Medical School: Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Midwestern University, 2008

Training Goals: Combined AP/CP

### Brian Linert, M.D.

1st year resident in Pathology; Medical School: Indiana University School of Medicine, 2008

Training Goals: Combined AP/CP

### Joel Miron, M.D.

1st year resident in Pathology; Medical School: University of South Dakota, Sanford School of Medicine, 2008

Training Goals: Combined AP/CP

### Eyglo Thordardottir, M.D.

1st year resident in Pathology; Medical School: University of Iceland, Iceland, 2003

Training Goals: Combined AP/CP

### Jonathon Yost, M.D.

1st year resident in Pathology; Medical School: Southern Illinois University, 2008

Training Goals: Combined AP/CP

## New Fellows

### Sophie Arbefeville, M.D.

Fellow in Microbiology; Medical School: St. George's University School of Medicine, Grenada, West Indies, 2002; Residency AP/CP, Stony Brook University Medical Center, 2004-2008.

### Ryan Askeland, M.D.

Fellow in Cytopathology; Medical School: University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, 2004; Residency AP/CP, University of Iowa, 2004-2008.

### Adam Bell, M.D.

Fellow in Surgical Pathology; Medical School: University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, 2004; Residency AP/CP, University of Iowa, 2004-2008.

### Michelle Bleile, M.D.

Fellow in Hematopathology; Medical School: University of Colorado School of Medicine, 2004; Residency AP/CP, University of Iowa, 2004-2008.

### Alan Junkins, Ph.D.

Fellow in Medical Microbiology; Graduate School: University of Wisconsin, 1991.

### Elizabeth Moyle, M.D.

Fellow in Surgical Pathology; Medical School: University of Colorado School of Medicine, 2004; Residency AP/CP, University of Iowa, 2004-2008.

### Michel Nasr, M.D.

Fellow in Hematopathology; Medical School: Kursk State Medical University, 1999; Residencies: CP, American University of Beirut, 1999-2003, AP/CP, Suny Upstate Medical University, 2003-2007.

### William Rose, M.D.

Fellow in Transfusion Medicine; Medical School: Texas Tech University, 2003; Residency, CP only, Stony Brook University Medical Center, 2005-2008.

### Dean-Yar Tigrani, M.D.

Fellow in Cytopathology; Medical School: University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, 2000; Residencies: University of Iowa Department of Pediatrics, 2000-2003, AP/CP, Pathology 2003-2007.

## A Message from Amy Brainard

As a recent transplant to Iowa City from Kansas City, it did not take long to understand the commitment and passion that University of Iowa alumni have for the University and Iowa City. I have had the privilege of visiting a few of our Pathology alumni and look forward to meeting more of you.



When I joined The University of Iowa Foundation, one of the most remarkable facts I learned was that the UI receives only 13.5% of its operating budget funding from state appropriations, and less within the Carver College of Medicine. We are grateful to those who have made annual gifts over the years, and we hope those of you who have not made a recent contribution will join your fellow graduates who are currently investing in the future of the Department of Pathology.

It is impressive to read through this newsletter, noting more than 15 award recipients and 10 new fellows. Many of our alumni are making major gift commitments either through outright contributions, pledge gifts, or by including the Department of Pathology in their will or trust which can make a lasting contribution without affecting your current financial security and freedom. These gifts are used for to enhance the academic mission of the Department through a number of mechanisms including faculty support through endowed professorships, lectureships to bring the very best to campus, and scholarships for our students.

We appreciate your gifts to support our mission of being a leader in patient care, education, and creating an environment that fosters staff growth and development. I encourage you to support the Department of Pathology by giving online at: [www.medicine.uiowa.edu/pathology/](http://www.medicine.uiowa.edu/pathology/). You may also e-mail me at [amy-brainard@uiowa.edu](mailto:amy-brainard@uiowa.edu) or call me at (800) 648-6973. I look forward to an opportunity to meet you and learn more about your experience with The University of Iowa.

PathBeat is published for alumni and friends of the Department of Pathology, UI Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine.

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