CHAIR’S NOTE

I am delighted to welcome 3 new members to the cadre of Pathobiology faculty and staff. They are: Dr. Nicole Ricker, John Pham and David Marom. Each of these colleagues will bring to our department a wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise.

Our department will be growing soon. We are in the midst of two faculty searches, one for Animal Disease Genomics and Bioinformatics and the other for Wildlife and Zoo Pathology. Please watch this space for more updates as we are hoping to begin onsite interviews for these positions in spring.

Best, Shayan Sharif

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INVESTS $1.5 MILLION IN U OF G GENOMICS PROJECTS

Healthier consumers, animals and ecosystems are the focus of three University of Guelph genomics research projects that will receive federal funding worth $1.5 million. Pathobiology’s very own, Prof. Bonnie Mallard, heads up one of the projects receiving funding under the announcement.  | U of G News | Genome Canada

Congrats to Dr. Éva Nagy on her retirement after 30 years as faculty at OVC. First in VMI then in Pathobiology. An amazing career and an amazing person.

Dr. Janet MacInnes retired as of the end of December 2018 after more than 3 decades of stellar service to our Department. We are truly thankful to Jan for the work that she did in many different capacities, including her work as an advisor, mentor, teacher, graduate coordinator and many others.

Dr. Ravi Kulkarni left our Department early this year to start a tenure-track faculty position in poultry research at the College of Veterinary Medicine, North Carolina State University.

Dr. Katie Clow has begun her One Health faculty career in Population Medicine.

Dr. Russell Fraser has been appointed as an Assistant Professor of Veterinary Pathology, Atlantic Veterinary College. He also received the CL Davis award at the ACVP 2018 annual meeting in Washington DC.

Britta Knight had an amazing time at the ACVP conference in Washington last week! She met wonderful people, attended interesting talks, as well as taking 2nd place for her poster.

The department wishes Donna Kangas all the best in her retirement. She has worked on campus for 39 years, with 14 of them for Pathobiology. She made a significant and lasting positive impact on the lives and careers of every single one of our students, for which we are thankful. She will be really missed.

Congratulations to graduate student Amira Rghei for winning 'Best in Show' in the the Office of Research 'Research in Focus' photo contest! | Best in Show

Photo by Amira Rghey, Ontario Veterinary College Student
Cross-Species Cancer Comparison Uncovers New Drug Targets, Study Reveals

New drug targets for a rare form of melanoma may result from the discovery of similar genetic mutations found in humans, dogs and horses under a first-ever tri-species DNA sequencing study involving Dr. Geoffrey Wood.

Comparing cancers across species may help in pinpointing the most relevant drug targets, said pathobiology researcher Dr. Wood, assistant co-director of U of G’s Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation (ICCI).

How well do canine osteosarcoma grading systems predict outcome?

Accurate predictions are a critical piece of the puzzle when studying diseases such as cancer. They help define prognosis and are vital when choosing the best treatment plan.

For canine osteosarcoma, tumour grading systems are the standard method for determining the best approach for patients.

Study shows benefit of vascular normalization in OV therapy for advanced epithelial ovarian cancer

Virologists studying the use of viruses to treat cancer have long seen acute vascular shutdown as a positive response to oncolytic virus (OV) therapy. This process, which is characterized by the drastic reduction of blood flow to a tumour after treatment, was believed to make OV treatment more effective by increasing oxygen starvation in cancer cells and sequestering the viruses within the tumours.

AWESOME CAREERS

Great story in the OVC Crest (page 16) about former DVSc student Dr. Iga Stasiak and her wild career path.

A passion for wildlife and a love of the outdoors has always been a part of Iga Stasiak’s life.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS


Distribution and abundance of Eimeria species in commercial turkey flocks across Canada. Imai RK, Barta JR. | PubMed

Comparative molecular analysis of fecal microbiota of bobcats (Lynx rufus) and domestic cats (Felis catus). Eshar D, Lee C, Weese JS. | PubMed

Fowl adenovirus 9 ORF19, a lipase homolog, is nonessential for virus replication and is suitable for foreign gene expression. Pei Y, Corredor JC, Kreil PJ, Nagy É. | PubMed

Ensuring Observational Studies Have Validity and Impact. Caswell JL. | PubMed

Mónica Baquero, Felipe and big sister Elana, welcomed Amelia on January 11th.
UPCOMING EVENTS

PATHOBIOLOGY SEMINARS

Seminars will take place at 11:30 am in PAHL room 1810 unless otherwise noted.

Mar 8  Rachel Clanciolo, Ohio State University
TOPIC: 2155 Kidneys and Counting: How Comprehensive Evaluation of Renal Tissue has Expanded our Understanding of Kidney Disease in Small Animals
Host: D. Bienzle

Mar 22  Wei Zhang, Pathobiology
TOPIC: TBD
Host: S. Wootton

Mar 29  PABI *6440/6450 Student Presentations
1. Joseph Nowlan
2. Ayumi Matsuyama
Host: G. Wood / J. MacInnes

Apr 5  Benoit Cuq, Pathobiology
TOPIC: TBD
Host: G. Wood

Apr 12  Diana Sinclair, Pathobiology
TOPIC: Exploring opportunities to modernize Ontario’s approach to wildlife health through understanding literature, stakeholders, networks, and policy
Host: C. Jardine

Apr 26  Ashley Cormier, Pathobiology
TOPIC: The role of SAMHDPast, present and future of CTX-M mediated resistance across Canadian domestic animals 1 in feline immunity
Host: D. Bienzle

OVC and U of G EVENTS

Mar 28  Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare, 12:30 PM PAHL 1800
Positive welfare for fish: rationale and ways forward.

DEPARTMENT REMINDERS and HEALTH & SAFETY

Lab Techs/supervisors should check the new biohazard labels put on their doors last year because the sharpie pen disappears after 6 months and the contact information is no longer visible. The EH&S department has been advised and because they have so many of these labels, they suggest we put tape or a label in the contact information area and write in that space or use a labeler to add the information.

The method for delivery of liquid nitrogen to storage tanks has been modified. Instead of filling up the small transfer tank and filling user tanks, Cory and John will be moving the large liquid nitrogen tank between floors. This means that no one should travel in the elevator when the tank is inside and there will be a sign on the tank warning people to take the next elevator trip. The transfer of liquid nitrogen will occur in the cold rooms on the 3rd and 4th floors and all users must have wheels on their storage tanks so they can be moved there.

GAMES DAY
MONDAYS 12-1:15 pm Room 3829
Join in the fun during our MONDAY GAMES at lunch time. Bring your cards and/or your favorite board game and play with others at lunch time.

KNITTING GROUP
WEDNESDAYS 12-1:15 Room 3829
Purl Jam on Wednesdays. Bring your knitting, crochet, or other needle craft and join the group for companionable crafting or advice. > see poster

OTHER USEFUL LINKS

- OVC Bulletin
- Campbell Centre for Animal Welfare
- Centre for Cardiovascular Investigations
- Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses
- Equine Guelph
- Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigations
- OAHN
- OVC Pet Trust
- Poultry Health Research Network
- B4uGetaPet
- U of G News
- Worms and Germs

NEWS from OVC Centres and More

- Grant Opportunities
- Call for Nominations
- Ontario Animal Health Network

DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

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NEWSLETTER and SOCIAL MEDIA

Contact: Brandon
- News items
- Awards
- Events
TO ADD TO TWITTER

Contact: Nathalie
- newsletter submissions
- website updates
- research posters
- research websites
- teaching rooms and resources