

The Laboratory Report

Volume 3, November 2020

Faculty and Staff Update:

The Discipline of Laboratory Medicine extends congratulations to Dr. Stephanie Reid who recently became our newest GFT faculty member, to Dr. Andrea Simmonds who was appointed to the position of Clerkship Coordinator in our discipline and to PGY3 resident Dr. Alexandra States who was appointed to the position of Administrative Resident. The Discipline also extends a warm welcome to our new PGY1s, Dr. Kylie Everard and Dr. Jeremy O'Brien.

Achievements & Activities:

Faculty member, Dr. Stephanie Reid co-authored the textbook titled "Atlas of Intestinal Pathology – Volume 1: Neoplastic Disease of the Intestines".

Dr. Jane Barron had a collaborative case based review accepted for publication in the Child's Nervous System journal titled "Late Recurrence of Choroid Plexus Carcinoma". Dr. Barron also recently started a collaborative Glioma research project with the Hospital for Sick Children. Dr. Edward Randell, co-chairs the Balanced Scorecard Project Team. This team met in September to finalize the proposed faculty wide indicators for the FoM strategic plan. Dr. Barron is also a member of this team.

Dr. George Zahariadis and Dr. Yang Yu were successful in securing a CanCoGen grant. Dr. Zahariadis was also successful in securing a NSERC grant for the application titled "Testing Novel Face Mask Materials COVID-19".



Our discipline has received some recognition – the cover of our Careers in Laboratory Medicine brochure is featured on one of the FoM Destination Excellence banners at the main entrance of the medical school.



Dr. Vinita Thakur won one of AACC Academy's Distinguished Abstract Award for her abstract entitled "Use of a Lean Six Sigma Approach to Investigate Excessive Quality Control Material Use and Resulting Costs". Dr. Thakur's abstract was one of 31 (out of 733 accepted for the 2020 AACC Annual Scientific Meeting) selected for scientific excellence by a panel of Academy Fellows.

Dr. Pierre-Luc Mallet recently received certification in toxicology by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry. This certification is achieved through an examination. Dr. Mallet recently accepted a position in Sherbrooke, Quebec. We will certainly miss Dr. Mallet, but wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Congratulations to our Program Director, Dr. Simon Kirby on being awarded the 2019 Dean of Medicine Excellence Award (junior teaching).

PGY3 resident Dr. Alexandra States had an article published in The Cureus Journal of Medical Science, titled: Benign Palatine Tonsil Volume Variation Following Bilateral Tonsillectomy in

**Discipline of Laboratory Medicine
Memorial University**

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Adults. Alex received an email from a woman who was very thankful to read Alex's paper. This is part of the email Alex received:

"I just wanted to thank you for your article. I brought my 7 year old daughter to the ENT today and was shown that she had one tonsil that appeared quite a bit larger than the other. We were [recommended], but in no way pressured, to do a tonsillectomy and the [doctor] assured us that [it was not] uncommon and that we should not worry. Of course I went home and googled 'asymmetrical tonsils' and was immediately led to articles about childhood lymphoma. Not a good thing for an already worried parent. I was so grateful to find your article - and I wanted you to know how much you've eased my mind."

Our Discipline Chair, Dr. Jane Barron virtually attended the Canadian Chairs of Pathology meetings in June and October. She also virtually attended the Annual Canadian Association of Neuropathologists Meeting.

Discipline Events & Activities:



The Discipline of Laboratory Medicine hosted its first virtual Research Day on November 6, 2020. Residents, graduate students and research assistants presented their various research projects and a guest lecturer, Dr. Carlos Parra-Herran gave a lecture titled "HPV and Beyond: the Evolving Classification of Female Lower Genital Tract Neoplasia".

Awards were presented at the end of our research day for "Best Resident Presentation" and "Best

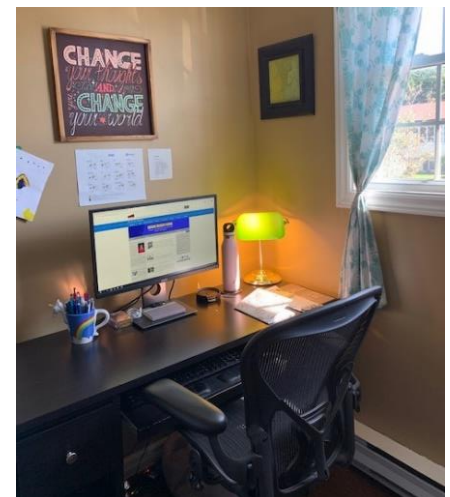
Presentation". PGY3 resident Dr. Sherine Salama won "Best Resident Presentation" and Research Assistant, Dr. Kerri Smith won "Best Presentation".



The Discipline is planning a half-day Strategic Planning Retreat for January 2021 as the next phase of its strategic planning.

Administrative staff in the FoM are set to return to campus on a part-time basis, beginning November 23, 2020. In the meantime, if anyone has been wondering where Amanda & Kristen's offices are.....

Amanda's office, pictured here, is located in the east end of St. John's.



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Kristen's office, pictured to the right, is located in Blaketown, NL. Also pictured, is our newest administrative assistant – Bear! He's a little "ruff" around the edges but he's catching on!



Currently, both Kristen and Amanda can be reached by email, telephone or snail mail – but hopefully they will be back in our academic office in the coming weeks!

Discipline of Laboratory Medicine faculty, resident or staff accomplishments and upcoming events can be shared with our discipline administrative staff members for publishing in future newsletters.