

MCGILL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

ANNUAL REPORT – 2013

Dr. Zu-Hua Gao
Professor and Chair

Department of Pathology – Annual Report - 2013

Research and publications:

a. Grants

Table 1. Summary of research grants awarded in Canadian dollars

	Pathologist as PI	Pathologists as Co-PI	Cross appointed Scientist as PI	Total
2013	2,023,018	286,080	24,197,252	26,506,350

Table 2. List of major research grants with departmental members as principal investigators

Name	Sponsor	Amount awarded as of 2013 (CDN)
Baglole, C.	RI-MUHC, CFI, FRSQ, CIHR	372,299.50
Burnier, M.	Alcon Canada Inc. – MITACS	197,333.00
Divangahi, M.	CIHR, CFI, NSERC	573,799.00
Fraser, R.	Boehringer Ingelhem	100,000.00
Gao, Z	China National Nature Science Foundation	290,000.00
Haegert, D.	Multiple Sclerosis Scientific Res. Fd.	60,185.00
Hamid, Q.	CIHR	140,079.00
Marcus, V.	CPAC	903,000.00
Metrakos, P.	Fonds de la Recherche en santé du Québec	350,000.00
Papadopoulos, V.	CIHR, CFI, NIH, FRSQ,	19,842,981.00
Park, M	NIH, CIHR, Quebec Consortium/Drug Discovery	966,283.00
Sandhu, S.	St. Mary's Research Center	20,000.00
Sabri, S.	CRS	160,000
Spatz, Alan	CRC, Melanoma Research Alliance	486,080.00
Van Kempen, Leon	EORTC Melanoma Group TR	163,753.33

b. Publications

Table 1. Publications by departmental pathologists: number, impact factor, and citations

	Total No. of publications	No. of staff who published	Publications per person	Mean impact factor	Mean No. of citations
Pathologists	142	27	5.25	3.66	3.15
Cross-appointed scientists (8):	32	6	5.33	4.29	3.0

The Department's signature research programs such as pulmonary pathology, ophthalmologic pathology, and molecular pathology continue to take a leadership role nationally and internationally in their respective research domain. Our pathologists have been involved in several high profile basic science and clinical studies which has resulted in publications in high impact journals [Link to Publications for 2013](#)

c. Significant conference presentations

Auger, M. McGill Cytopathology Review Course, Montreal 2013

Bernard, C. Michel, R. Transplantation of Solid Organs Short Course: USCAP Annual meeting, Baltimore, MD. (2013).

Brimo, F.

- Speaker, Canadian Association of Pathology Meeting; Anatomic Pathology Symposium, Quebec City, 2013.
- Speaker, Annual Canadian Senior Resident Urologic Oncology Course, Montreal 2013.

Burnier, M.

- Guest speaker, Simpósio Internacional Moacyr Álvaro (SIMASP), Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2013.
- Director & Guest speaker, PAAO/CBO Ophthalmology Congress Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2013
- Director & Guest speaker, SUNY Current Concepts in Ophthalmology, Atlantic City, NJ, 2013

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Case, B.

- Invited speaker, American Conference Institute: New York, NY. October, 2013.
- Invited speaker: Perrin Conference on The Newest Trends in Lung Cancer & Mesothelioma. Chicago, IL. June 2013

Ferenczy, A.

- Invited speaker: “UPA and Endometrial Safety” Watson Pharma National Advisory Board, Whistler, British Columbia, March 1, 2013.
- Invited speaker: Gedeon Richter and Watson Pharma, International Scientific Symposium-Ulipristal acetate as a treatment for uterine fibroids: clinical data and experience. Barcelona, Spain, April 2013.
- Invited speaker: Watson Pharma Regional Advisory Board Meeting, Toronto, ON, June 1, 2013.
- Faculty, Annual Clinical Meeting of the SOGC, Calgary, AB, June 11-14, 2013.

Gao, Z.

- Invited speaker, Chinese-American Pathologist Association Annual meeting. March 2-8. Baltimore, USA.
- Invited speaker, Chinese Association of Directors of Pathology Meeting, Shenzhen, China. October 10-13, 2013.
- Invited speaker, Liver Pathology Review Course, Lushan, China. April 18-23, 2013.

Park, M.

- Member of the Organizing Committee and Scientific Program Committee, Canadian Cancer Research Conference, Toronto, ON, Canada, 2013.
- Invited speaker: MIT Biology Colloquium Series, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA February 2013.
- Invited speaker: “Oncogenes and epithelial to mesenchymal transition” University of Angers, Angers, France. Jul 3, 2013.
- Invited speaker, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Faculty of Medicine, Jerusalem, Israel. July 13, 2013.
- Panel speaker, Goodman Cancer Research Centre Public Lecture.” McGill University, 2013

Papadopoulos, V.

- Chair: Scientific Program Committee, American Society of Andrology 2013 Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas. April 13-16, 2013.
- Co-chair: Session1 on Molecular Medicine, 16th International Symposium on Molecular Medicine, Crete, Greece. October 10-12, 2013.

Sandhu, S. Invited speaker: Father Muller Medical Center, Mangalore, India, Oct. 2013.

Spatz, A.

- Invited speaker (inaugural lecture).10th Brazilian Melanoma Conference, Belo Horizonte Brazil, Aug 2013.
- Invited speaker and Chair: 8th World Congress of Melanoma, Hamburg, Germany July 2013
- Invited speaker and visiting professor: Almaty Cancer Center. Almaty, Kazakhstan April 2013.
- Organizing committee and Chair: “Molecular Pathology of Melanoma”. 7th Canadian Melanoma Conference, Banff, AL, Feb 22, 2013.
- Invited lecture: “Improving the setting to drive innovation”. Translational Science Meeting, Toronto, ON. Dec. 12, 2013.
- Discussant: “Recent progresses in melanoma therapy”, ECCO-ESMO Meeting, Amsterdam. The Netherlands. September 28, 2013.

Teaching and learning (undergraduate and graduate):

a. Teaching awards: Dr. Fadi Brimo, Teacher of the Year 2012-2013

b. Initiatives and innovations in teaching programs

Overlapping of Unit 7 and Unit 8 courses in undergraduate medical education.

Revision of Faculty of Medicine undergraduate teaching curriculum.

New course designed and taught for the first time in 2013: PATH 652 Molecular Biology of Disease-

Environmental Toxicants. Graduate course, lectures and seminars dealing with concepts and current

techniques in molecular biology applied to the study of environmental toxicants causing human diseases.

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c. Initiatives with respect to graduate supervision

The department currently has eight PhD students, two MSc students and two jointly-trained PhD students from China. The graduate student pool will be increased with the addition of cross appointed scientists as supervisors.

d. Evidence of teaching success

i. Awards received by our students and Residents

Pierre Fiset, Resident of the Year, 2012-13

Bin Xu, Best Clinical Research Presentation- Finlayson Day presentations 2013.

Bin Xu, Canadian Chairs of Pathology Award in Experimental Pathology; CAP-ACP meeting 2013.

Laila Al-Alwan, Best Experimental Research Presentation- Finlayson Day presentations 2013.

May Chergui, Best Resident Teacher, 2012-13.

ii. Student publications

Graduate students published 8 articles. Residents published 7 articles and along with 14 meeting presentations.

iii. Result of Royal College Licensing Examination

Jonathan Lachapelle, Myriam Chevarie-Davis and Farshid Razaghi successfully passed the exam in May 2013.

iv. Pathology electives

In 2013, there were 66 residents from other programs and 13 medical students who did electives in the Department of Pathology

Involvement in the community:

Bernard, C.

- Member of the Pathology Committee, Programme Québécois de Lutte contre le Cancer.
- Chair Anatomical Pathology specialty committee, Royal College.
- Member Continuous Medical Education Committee, Association des pathologistes du Québec.
- Member, CAP telepathology committee (chaired by Dr. B. Tetu).

Ferenczy, A.

- Member of the Expert Committee for the 2014 CDC STD Treatment Guidelines for HPV/Genital Warts, 2013

Fraser, R.

- Ambassador, United States Canadian Academy of Pathology.
- Director, Maude Abbott Medical Museum of McGill University.
- Member, MUHC Heritage Committee.

Gao, Z.

- President, Chinese American Pathologist Association.

Lopez-Valle, H.R.

- Personally donates Pathology books to each of St. Mary's Hospital pathology program graduates and to junior residents/medical students.

Lavoie, J.

- Canadian College of Medical Geneticist examination committee and Lab practice committee member
- Organizing committees member, Toronto Great Lakes Chromosome Conference

Marcus, V.

- Member of a subcommittee of the "Comité de pathologie de la direction québécoise du cancer".

Michel, R.P.

- Faculty of Medicine, Oncology, 516-635D, Experimental Oncology
- Faculty of Medicine, Experimental Medicine, 516-504A, Biology of Cancer

Papadopoulos, V.

- Member of the Board of Directors of the Fonds de la Recherche du Québec (FRSQ)-Santé.
- Member, National Scientific Advisory Council, American Federation for Aging Research, New York, NY.

Zorychta, E.

- Co-organizer with Anurag Dhir, of the new McGill Centennial Learning-an official collaboration between McGill Office for Social Equity and Diversity Education, and Centennial CEGEP.

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- Chair, Leo Yaffe and Principal's Prize Awards Committee, Faculty of Science
- Elected member, McGill University Senate and McGill University Board of Governors
- Member, Nomination, Governance and Ethics Committee, Board of Governors
- University Vice-Marshall for all Convocation ceremonies
- Member, Education Strategic Planning Committee, Faculty of Medicine

Milestones:

a. Major events

- In June, 2013 Dr. Jonathan Epstein from John Hopkins University School of Medicine was invited as the keynote speaker for Finlayson Research Day
- In July 2013 Dr. Manon Auger was offered a two-year appointment on the Editorial Board of Cancer Cytopathology, a peer-reviewed journal published by the American Cancer Society.
- In July 2013, the first issue of the quarterly Department of Pathology Newsletter was published.
- In January 2013, the Department of Pathology (MUHC & McGill) held its first Retreat at Gault House on January 12-13, 2013.
- In March 2013, the Department's Residency Program received full accreditation from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.
- In October 16, 2013, Dr. Wedad Hanna, a leading expert in breast cancer was an invited speaker in the Pathology Scientific Series.
- In August 2013 Dr. Morag Park was appointed as an associate member of the Department of Pathology. Dr. Morag Park is a James McGill Professor in the Departments of Biochemistry, Medicine and Oncology. Dr. Morag Park is the Director of Goodman Cancer Research Center.
- In November 2013 The Dubrovsky Molecular Pathology Center at the Jewish General Hospital was unveiled. Dr. Alan Spatz is the director of the Dubrovsky Molecular Pathology Center.
- In 2013 the Henry C Witelson Ocular Pathology Laboratory had five Research Awards Recipients and their 2nd Student Vision Canada Award Recipient.
- In December 2013, Dr. Bassam Abdulkarim and Dr. Siham Sabri were cross-appointed to the Department of Pathology. Dr. Bassam Abdulkarim is an Associate Professor in the Department of Oncology and the Director of the Division of Radiation Oncology. Dr. Siham Sabri is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Oncology-Division of Radiation Oncology.

b. Recruitments

- On April 2, 2013, Carolynna Olha joined the Department as the Administrative Manager.
- On May 1, 2013, Eileen Grenier, became the Administrator Student Affairs Coordinator.
- On Sept. 1, 2013, Isabel Bolivar joined the Department as the Administrative Assistant to the Chair.
- On Sept. 1, 2013, Dr. Chunhai Hao was recruited. Dr. Chunhai Hao is a Canadian-trained neuropathologist who will be dividing his time between clinical practice and research activities.
His area of expertise is genomic diagnosis and targeted therapies of cancers.
- In July 2013, Dr. Hangjun Wang joined the Pathology team at the Jewish General Hospital.
- In September 2013, Dr. Mona Alameldin joined the Pathology team at the Jewish General Hospital.

c. Retirements and departures

- Aug 30, 2014 Laura Fiorita, Administrative Assistant to the Chair, retired.
- Aug. 30, 2014 Cecile Williams, Lab Superior, retired.
- May 1, 2013 Mira Hoffman, Student Affairs Coordinator, retired.
- December 31, 2013, David Hori, Pathology Assistant, retired.

Honours, awards, and prizes:

Baglolle, C.

- Received the Catherine Coyne Memorial Fellowship, Royal Victoria Hospital Foundation, McGill University, 2013
- Received the Montreal General Hospital Foundation Award 2013

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Blumenkrantz, M. Received Department of Pathology Innovation Award for outstanding leadership in Quality Assurance.

Brimo, F. Received the Montreal General Hospital Foundation Award 2013

Burnier, M.

- Named Osler Fellow, McGill University
- Received the Cunha-Vaz Award, Portuguese Society of Ophthalmology, Lisbon, Portugal

Fu, L. Dr. William O. Duguid Research Award in Pathology MUHC Research Institute

Gao, Z.

- Received the Simone & Morris Fast Award for Oncology, MUHC Research Institute
- Received Overseas Distinguished Scholar, The City of Beijing, China

Hamid, Q. Selected for the Royal Society FRS, 2013.

Onerheim, R. Named Osler Fellow, McGill University.

Papadopoulos, V. Received the Prix Michel Sarrazin awarded by the Club de recherches cliniques du Quebec.

Park, M.

- Named James McGill Professor
- Appointed Diane and Sal Guerrero Chair in Cancer Genetics.
- Named Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Watters, K. Received Department of Pathology Collegiality Award.

Consulting activities:

Faculty Member	Other	Total
Burnier, M.	Aura Biosciences, Private Sector, Collaboration in Uveal Melanoma	5 days
Ferenczy, A.	Member of Quality Control/Expert Panel in Future I, II & III prophylactic, quadrivalent HPV vaccine randomized clinical trials, WestPoint, PA	1998-to present
	Member of Expert Pathology Panel in Roche Diagnostic Systems “ATHENA” RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL, Pleasanton, CA	2008- to present
	Member of Expert Pathology Panel in GenProbe “APTIMA” randomized controlled trial, San Diego, CA	2008 – to present
	Member of Expert Pathology Panel in BD’s randomized controlled trial for molecular (HPV) cervical cancer screening	Current
	Member of Expert Pathology Panel in Cepheid’s randomized controlled trial for molecular (HPV) cervical cancer screening	Current
	Member of Expert Pathology Panel in Numoda “ADVAXIS” randomized controlled trial for therapeutic HPV vaccine for high grade squamous intraepithelial lesions of the cervix	Current
	Member of Endometrial Safety Pathology Panel in PEARL 1 AND 2 UPA trials, PreGlem/Watson Pharma, Geneva, Switzerland	2008 – to present
Fraser, R.	MUHC Kuwait Project, Assessing cardiac transplant biopsies	1 /2
Gao, Z	Provide consultation to the Pathology Department at Beijing capital Medical University, You Ann Hospital	2010 to present
Spatz, A.	Advisory board member for Roche(Canada), Merck (global and Canada), GSK (Canada), Amgen (Canada), Pfizer (Canada)	2013