

# Pathology Newsletter

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus



## Words from the PD/APD

**Dr. Von Samedi and Dr. Mary Berg**

Welcome to our inaugural newsletter for the University of Colorado Pathology Residency Training Program! It is so fitting that this coincides with the Spring season, a time of renewal, and the celebration of newly matched residents to our program. Our faculty members, residents and staff members are eagerly expecting and preparing for the arrival of these new physicians. It is also the time, whether personally or professionally, many of us feel rejuvenated. The blossoming of flowers and burgeoning new green leaves invite us to refuel our imagination and to envision endless possibilities and opportunities. In this first issue, we are sharing the profiles of these incredible new residents who will be joining our community this summer. Our faculty is exceptional, and we sincerely wish we could profile each member. However, with limited space, we have decided to highlight one of our new faculty members, Dr. Driscoll. She has been a fantastic addition to say the least. You will also find a few examples of extraordinary accomplishments by our current residents, both personally and academically. While this newsletter will primarily cover news and events surrounding the residency training program, occasionally we will highlight members of our department that are truly dedicated to advance our medical knowledge through innovative research. In this issue, we are introducing you to a brilliant second year cancer biology Ph.D. trainee who is doing amazing work on squamous cell carcinoma. We truly hope you enjoy this newsletter. Lastly, take the time to enjoy the spring, and seize the moment to make room for new, positive attitudes. Try something new that is good for your body, mind, and spirit.

## Index

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PAGE 1 - WORD  
FROM THE PD/APD  
PAGE 2- MATCH  
DAY  
PAGE 4- FACULTY  
SPOTLIGHT  
PAGE 5- RESEARCH  
PAGE 6- OUR  
RESIDENTS  
PAGE 9 -  
UPCOMING EVENTS  
PAGE 10- DID YOU  
KNOW?

# MATCH DAY WELCOME OUR NEW INTERNS!

MARCH 18TH, 2022



## PURBESH ADHIKARI

M.B., B.S. 2011, B.P. KOIRALA  
INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCES,  
NEPAL

I am extremely excited to be in Colorado soon as I am one step closer to achieving my dreams of being a well trained pathologist in the future. Landscape of Colorado resembles my home country Nepal so I am excited about exploring it as I love trekking and hiking. Besides Pathology, I like playing and watching soccer games.



## JOSEPH FERRANTE

MD, 2022, UNIV NORTH CAROLINA,  
CHAPEL HILL

BS, 2012, UNIV NORTH CAROLINA,  
CHARLOTTE

HENDERSON POST-SOPHOMORE  
PATHOLOGY FELLOWSHIP AT UNIV  
NORTH CAROLINA, JUNE 2021-JUNE  
2022

I went to school at UNC-SOM. I was born and raised in NYC and a die hard Yankee fan. I enjoy watching most sports baseball, football and college Basketball, Go Tar Heels! My wife and I met in NY during high school and reunited in NC and got married. We have a Siberian husky named Tito, and a daughter born this past Xmas eve, named Fiona. We are looking forward to leaving the east coast and seeing some real mountains in Colorado. I went into pathology because I wanted to see what no one else in medicine can on a daily basis as my method of patient care.



## MCKINZIE JOHNSON

MD, 2022, LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

BS, 2017, SOUTHERN ADVENTIST  
UNIVERSITY

I'm looking forward to being in Colorado because it provides access to some of the most unique academic and geographical environments. I am excited and honored to be working with the fantastic faculty and residents in this program. Being in CO also means being near some of my family, who have been a great support during medical school. It also means opportunities to challenge and improve some of my favorite hobbies. I can't wait to rock climb in the Garden of the Gods and snowboard at Vail. Denver's beauty and unique history will provide great inspiration for writing stories and paintings.

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## STEPHANY NGOMBU

MD, 2022, OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

BA, 2012, INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
SOUTH BEND

I am originally from the great lakes region and spent my childhood between South Bend, IN and Detroit MI. My family is from Sierra Leone and I am the first physician in my family. I chose Pathology at CU in part for the robust fellowship opportunities and the enthusiasm of the teaching faculty and residents on my interview day. In my free-time I enjoy bodyweight exercises, thrifting, online reselling and spending time outdoors with my Australian cattle dog Kobe.



## NAKUL SHANKAR

MD, 2016, ROSS UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, BARBADOS

BS, 2010, MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

I enjoy playing around in python, machine learning in digital pathology, reading dystopian 1970s science fiction, listening to flamenco, the legend of Zelda, hiking in national parks, and my wife's home-cooked Indian food. My wife, cocker spaniel, and I are all greatly looking forward to having easy access to the beautiful nature in Colorado.



## KIMBERLY TEEHERA

MD, 2022, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,  
JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE, HONOLULU

BS, 2017, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT  
MANOA

I was born and raised in Honolulu, HI.

Favorite hobbies: baking and cooking, playing board games (especially Catan), hiking

What I'm looking forward to in Colorado: the beautiful scenery and learning how to ski and snowboard

What I'm looking forward to in this program: working and hanging out with all my co-residents!

Why pathology: pathology is highly visual, intellectually challenging, and most tied to basic sciences with the unique ability to--based on a small but key piece of tissue--help countless patients, provide answers and direction, and work with other experts through tough cases.



# Faculty Spotlight

**University of degree**

Medical school from the University of Washington, undergraduate from University of Wyoming

**Where did you grow up?**

Cheyenne, Wyoming

**What are you most proud of?**

First person in my family to be a physician

**Favorite thing to do in Colorado?** Snowboarding in the winter, hiking in the summer

**Best place you've ever traveled?** SCUBA diving on the Great Barrier Reef and hiking amongst the Giant Sequoias; impossible to pick which is the best because both are stunning and unique

**Who had the greatest influence on your education and/or career path?**

Dr. Culver whose neuropharmacology lab I worked in during college. He nudged me to apply to medical school when I was weighing my options for which education path to pursue after undergraduate.

**Most impactful part of your job?** Giving patients answers for their symptoms. In neuropathology we don't often render reports with good news, but we at least can provide our patients some answers about why they've been experiencing various symptoms.

**What advice would you give to your younger self or someone still pursuing their education?**

Keep an open mind about your career options and explore as many fields/specialties as possible. My fascination with brains began in high school when I took anatomy and physiology, then in college I worked as a research assistant in a neuropharmacology laboratory. I went into medical school knowing I wanted to specialize in a brain-related field and figured I would be a neurologist. Thankfully, I found neuropathology early through an interesting turn of events but took several non-pathology rotations (like transplant surgery) to gain perspective about the breadth of the field of medicine. Even in residency I strongly considered a few different specialties for fellowship (heme and peds), but ultimately decided on neuropathology.

Meghan Driscoll,  
MD

Assistant  
Professor

Neuropathologist

# RESEARCH

As an undergraduate, I found my passion in biomedical research as part of the Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research Training program. After exposure to cancer biology in courses, I participated in a post-baccalaureate program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and studied glioblastoma in the Hjelmeland laboratory. I am now a second-year Cancer Biology Ph.D. trainee at the University of Colorado Anschutz investigating squamous cell carcinoma. I focus on metastasis and cancer cell interactions with the extracellular matrix, ultimately seeking to discover targetable interactions to limit tumor cell dissemination. Previously I attended the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. This was incredibly formative in my decision to pursue a Ph.D. and developed the professional skills necessary for graduate school. Attending and presenting at the AACR national conference will allow me to build on these insights, receive critical scientific feedback from peers for my project, and learn new science and technologies from world experts in the cancer research field. The social networking among cancer researchers at the AACR national meeting will allow me to engage with academics who display a commitment to produce high-quality research and who advocate for and encourage young scientists, particularly among underrepresented students like myself. Thus, I will be better prepared to pursue a career in academia and discover novel therapeutics.



## John Aleman

### Publications

Poster session - National AACR meeting April 2022

Aleman J, Nguyen KA, Ke Y, Young CD, Wang XJ. Assessing the role of extracellular matrix-integrins in Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma. Poster session presented at: 113th American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting; 2022 Apr 8-13; New Orleans, LA

Aleman J, Young CD, Karam SD, Wang XJ. (2022) Revisiting Laminin and Extracellular Matrix Remodeling in Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma: What have we learned after more than four decades of research? *Molecular Carcinogenesis* [Under Review]

Tuy, K, GC, S., Chen, W, Harrison, D, Aleman, J, & Hjelmeland, A (2021) Distributing Redox Balance Via the Tetrahydrobiopterin Pathway in Glioblastoma. *Neuro-Oncology*, 23(6) <https://doi.org/10.1093/neuonc/noab196.306>





## Publications

Appiah D, Noamesi AT, Osaji J, Bolton C, Nwabuo CC, Ebong IA. The Association of Mental Health Disorders with Takotsubo Syndrome (Broken Heart Syndrome) Among Older Women. J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2022 Mar 3. doi: 10.1089/jwh.2021.0557. Epub ahead of print.

Fadiran O, Nwabuo C. The Evolution of Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter-2 Inhibitors in Heart Failure. Cureus. 2021 Nov 8;13(11):e19379. doi: 10.7759/cureus.19379.

Gidding SS, Colangelo LA, Nwabuo CC, Lewis CE, Jacobs DR, Schreiner PJ, Lima JAC, Allen NB. PDAY risk score predicts cardiovascular events in young adults: the CARDIA study. Eur Heart J. 2022 Feb 9;ehac009. doi: 10.1093/eurheartj/ehac009. 2020

Helander L, Potterveld S, Berg M. A platelet inventory management assessment: Is a pathogen reduction only inventory financially feasible? Transfus Med Rev. 2021; 35(3): 60-61. doi:10.1016/j.tmr.2021.07.002

## Our Residents

### RECOGNITION

Welcome our new resident chiefs: Brandi Davis and Susie Potterveld! Thank you to the outgoing chiefs, Lynelle Smith and My-Linh Ho, for all of your hard work!

### Awards



Brandi Davis  
Gold Foundation - Humanism  
and Excellence in Teaching  
Award (2021)

Beth Doughty  
Society of Pediatric Pathology -  
Resident Recruitment Award  
(2021/2022)



Susie Potterveld  
American Society of Clinical Pathology - 40 under 40  
Honoree (2021)

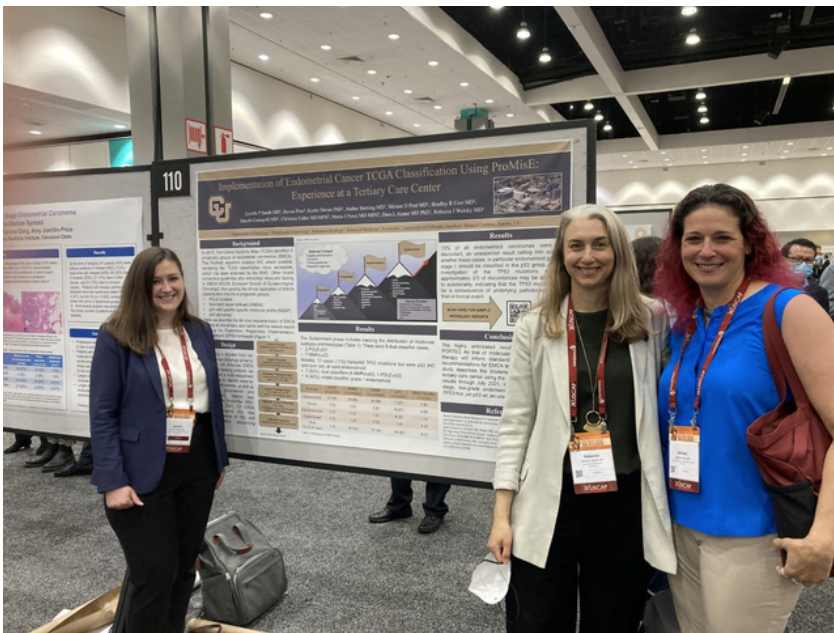
Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and  
Scientists - Paul E. Strandjord Young Investigator  
Research Grant Program Award (2021)





# Our Residents

## CONFERENCES



Lynelle Smith PGY4

2022 USCAP Annual Meeting

Implementation of Endometrial Cancer TCGA Classification Using ProMisE: Experience at a Tertiary Care Center. Lynelle P Smith MD, Devon Pino, Kurtis Davies PhD, Amber Berning MD, Miriam D Post MD, Bradley R Corr MD, Saketh Guntupalli MD, Christine Fisher MD MPH, Mario J Perez MD MPH, Dara L Aisner MD PhD, Rebecca J Wolsky MD

### Other conferences

Society of Pediatric Pathology - 2022 Virtual Spring Meeting - Beth Doughty, Brian Nguyen

College of American Pathologists - 2022 Spring Resident Forum - Elena Gandara

United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology - 2022 Annual Meeting - My-Linh Ho, Lynelle Smith, Wayne Thompson

## Abstract Publications

American Society of Cytopathology - 2021 Fall Meeting (Poster):  
Gandara E, Zhang L, Jing J. Hide in Plain Sight: Diagnostic Strategies in Malignant Cytology Fluid Specimens with Subtle Cytomorphologic Changes.

College of American Pathologists - 2021 Annual Meeting (Poster):  
Potterveld S, Bodmer J, Arnold M, Treece A. Case of Infantile Mesenchymal Tumor with Novel SQSTM1-MET Fusion.

Society of Pediatric Pathology - 2022 Spring Meeting (Poster)/Pediatric Academic Society - 2022 Spring Meeting (Platform):  
Doughty B, Levin A, Bodmer J, Westoo C, Van Der Have O, Lundmark K, Abman S, Galambos C. "Unboxing" the pulmonary effects of TBX4 germline mutation, an autopsy case study.

United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology - 2022 Annual Meeting (Poster):  
Ho L, Westbrook LM, Henn PA. Hepatic Hyaline Globules in Post-Reperfusion Liver Biopsies: Incidence and Lack of Association with Ischemic/Reperfusion Injury.

Smith LP, Pino D, Davies K, Berning A, Post MD, Corr BR, Guntupalli S, Fisher C, Perez MJ, Aisner DL, Wolsky RJ. Implementation of Endometrial Cancer TCGA Classification Using ProMisE: Experience at a Tertiary Care Center.

Thompson W, Clay MR. An Evaluation of the Utility and Efficiency of PathPresenter as a Method of Presenting Digital Surgical Pathology Unknown Conferences.



# OUR FAMILY



**Oliver**  
(November 2021)  
Path mom: Susie Potterveld



**Miles**  
(December 2020)  
Path mom: Ellie Hong



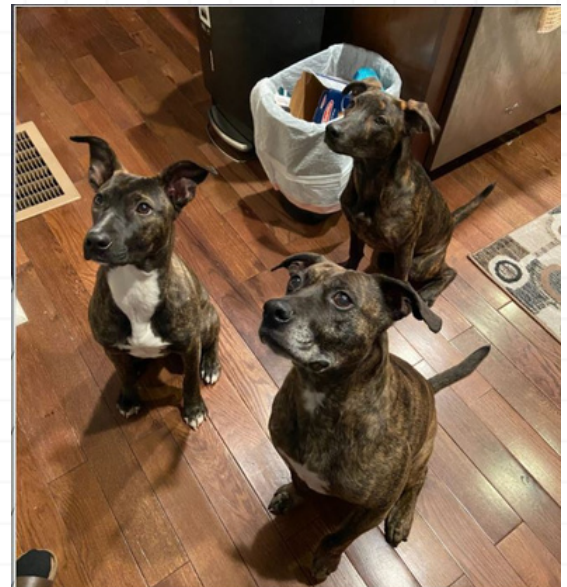
**Dean**  
(June 2021)  
Path mom: Brandi Davis



**Quinn**  
(July 2021)  
Path dad: Grant Collins



Christmas 2021  
Brandi Davis



Spry, Tempest, and Rêve  
Jessie Xiong



Dino!  
Deyze Badarane



Oliver in the snow  
Susie Potterveld



# UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 6TH 2022

## FAREWELL PARTY

Anschutz Medical Campus - Location TBD

JUNE 23-30 2022

## INTERN WEEK

Anschutz Medical Campus

JUNE 20-JULY 17 2022

## IMMERSION BLOCK

Anschutz Medical Campus

JULY 17-20 2022

2022 ANNUAL APC / PRODS / PDAS /  
UMEDS / GMEAS MEETING

Chicago, IL





## Recharge Room

The university has opened a wellness room in the Anschutz Outpatient Pavillion for staff, faculty, and students to use to rest and take time for yourself. There will be massage chairs, a VR experience, nature-filled projection space, reading materials, and more. Hours vary - contact [Jennifer.Ricklefs@uchhealth.org](mailto:Jennifer.Ricklefs@uchhealth.org) with questions. Located in AOP 2005 alcove, east of the AOP elevator C, 2nd floor.

## Social Media



@CU\_Pathology

contact

[hannah.quackenbush@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:hannah.quackenbush@cuanschutz.edu) with newsletter contributions

# Did you know?

## Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Upcoming Health Equity in Action Lab HEAL Training Series

Courses from April 12th-July 14th 2022

Sign up [here](#)

The CU Anschutz Medical Campus Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement is pleased to announce the opening of the LGBTQ+ Hub physical space on April 7, 2022. The Hub repurposes the Women and Gender Center previously on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. The LGBTQ+ Hub is located on the second floor of the Education 2 Building in the Oasis Space and will be open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.  
contact: [odeice@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:odeice@cuanschutz.edu)



## GME Awards

Irma Salas, our fellowship and education program coordinator, will be awarded the 2022 CU SOME GME Outstanding Program Coordinator Award by the CUSOM GME and the Program Coordinator Council. She will be honored at the April 20, 2022 GMEC meeting. Congratulations, Irma! You are so appreciated!