

The BDIAP 2016 Newsletter

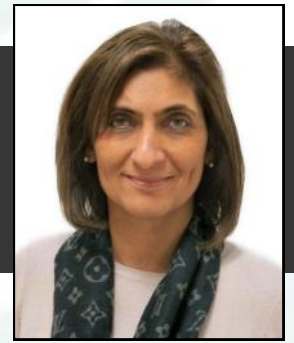


AN AFRICAN DIAGNOSIS!
Plus Reports from Germany, Bosnia and the UK.

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Divisional Editor

Dr. Nafisa Wilkinson



Dear All

Apologies for this much delayed newsletter but I have continued to get contributions for the newsletter well into April.

In the past year we have supported a lot of activities particularly in Africa and this is reflected in the current issue which is our chosen focus for this year. You will see many articles related to Africa and the work of the BDIAP in supporting activities in Africa.

In addition, we have increased our support closer to home and provide numerous bursaries for trainees from the BDIAP home countries to attend meetings in London and more recently several bursaries have been made available for the IAP meeting in Cologne for later on in the year.

In this issue we also pay tribute to an eminent and well known pathologist, Professor Sir Roddy MacSween who was formally a President of the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology as well as Editor in Chief of Histopathology. Professor MacSween died on 11th December 2015 following a long illness.

Once again as I did last year, I renew my plea for histopathology books that you no longer require in your department for Dhulikhel Hospital in Nepal. All books and pieces of equipment are very gratefully received. Dhulikhel Hospital has just started immunohistochemistry in their new laboratory. The BDIAP has facilitated one doctor to visit the UK from Nepal to learn the basics of immunohistochemistry to include both the technical side as well as interpretation. This was organised by the University of Nottingham. Whilst the department at Dhulikhel Hospital has moved to new premises and now has separate rooms for the different areas of the laboratory as well as a separate cut up room, Dhulikhel Hospital is still desperately short of microscopes. When I visited Nepal 18 months ago courtesy of the BDIAP, they had 2 microscopes which were medical student level microscopes. They were used for diagnostic purposes. They had 4 histopathologists, 2 were able to use the microscope in the morning and 2 in the afternoon. If you have any spare microscopes that need a little bit of love and care please do let me know. I am extremely grateful to Mr David Knipe whose sister has very kindly acquired a microscope with a teaching arm with the money that she has raised. David's colleagues have been able to rejuvenate the microscope and we are in the process of sending it to Nepal.

They at Dhulikhel Hospital are hugely excited to receive a microscope with a teaching arm.

I wish you all well for the rest of the year and do let me have any comments regarding the newsletter that you may have.

With my very best wishes

Yours sincerely

Nafisa Wilkinson, MA, FRCPath
Consultant in Gynaecological Pathology

Presidential Address

The British Division of the International Academy of Pathology

Dr. Alec Howat



2015 has been a real pleasure for me as BDIAP President. I have been able to attend all BDIAP meetings including the Trainees Molecular Study and Approach to Cut-Up Days, the joint BDIAP and Path-Soc meeting in Dublin and the November London meeting on Uropathology. I also attended the Lab-Skills end-of-programme conference in Kampala in September. A report is included in this newsletter. In addition, there have been two Council meetings and the Summer School for Medical Students, held this year over a weekend in August at St Hilda's College, Oxford.

It might be considered unseemly to pick out special moments within these excellent meetings.....but I'm going to do so anyway! Four lectures that I attended stood out for me for several reasons, not least that I only attended the lectures in my role as President as none of them fitted into my core Histopathology specialties.

The first was on Sudden Cardiac Death in Athletes by Sanjay Sharma, St George's University of London, London and given at the Dublin Joint meeting in June; he was on the Medical Team for the London Olympics and is on the team for the London Marathon so he knows what he is talking about. I knew absolutely nothing about the subject beforehand and was captivated by his delivery of a complex problem in such a clear and fascinating manner.

The second was by our Meetings' Secretary, Ian Roberts at the Medical Student Summer School at Oxford in August. He talked on the Digital Autopsy, a subject on which he is a true expert. It is rare that the comment 'one could hear a pin drop' can be applied to a lecture; the students were mesmerised.....as was I (again on a subject about which I was ignorant beforehand).

The third was at the LabSkills end-of-programme conference in September at Kampala, Uganda. Lab-skills is a programme that has been running for 30 months in 4 district laboratories in each of 5 countries in sub-Saharan Africa to build capacity and improve the standards and quality of pathology through skills training, knowledge transfer, leadership development and mentoring. The conference marked the conclusion of the pilot in order to a) share experience, lessons learned and best practices from the pilot, b) showcase the work and achievements, c) explore ways to strengthen and build on achievements to ensure sustainability and d) update and develop the knowledge and skills of conference delegates. At the meeting, Akin Abayomi, Head of Haematology, National Health Labs, Stellenbosch talked about Bio-banking and Pandemics; this sounded rather turgid to me but nothing could be further from the truth. Using the West Africa Ebola outbreak as an exemplar, he illustrated the importance of getting tissues under extreme circumstances in order to understand the virus. He was also scathing of various national and international bodies (such as the WHO) for their weak leadership and tardy response to the crisis.

My final standout lecture was at the November Uropathology meeting and given by Jonathan Epstein from Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore on Prostate Cancer Grading: A Decade After the 2005 Modified System. He introduced (to me anyway) the concept of five Grade Groups that were relatively easy to categorise and correlated well with recurrence-free survival and hence therapy. It is said that 'any truth passes through three stages: first it is ridiculed, then violently opposed and finally it is taken as self-evident'. I would be appalled if the use of Grade Groups for prostatic cancer did anything other than skip the first two stages!

Presidential Address

An annual joy for the BDIAP President is to award the President's and Cunningham Medals at the November meeting.

The President's Medal is given for services to education in Pathology. Looking at the last 5 years we see that recipients were Kristin Henry in 2009, Chris Meijer in 2010, Sebastian Lucas in 2011, Mary Leader in 2012, Geraint Williams in 2013 and Ian Ellis in 2014. Last April we had our Nominations and Membership Sub-Committee meeting at which we consider names for awards; someone mentioned Cyril Fisher and that was that.....a very quick unanimous decision (in fact someone said – you mean he hasn't already received it?). I asked him for his CV and foolishly printed it out! I will select a few highlights - he has been President of the International Society of Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology, been a member of numerous professional bodies and has had many management and administrative posts in his Trust at regional and national level. He has been an Editorial Board member of 9 journals and is presently the editor of Sarcoma and Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Surgical Pathology. But let us look at his education achievements – he has given 215 invited lectures, the first being at the University of Sheffield in 1985 and one of the most recent being at the MD Anderson Center, Houston in May 2015 although I note he has 3 organised for 2016. He has written 462 peer-reviewed papers, 5 RCPATH cancer datasets, 79 book chapters and 20 review articles and editorials. Then there are also 14 letters to editors and 162 published abstracts. He has given his time and experience freely at many BDIAP Symposia on Soft Tissue Tumours over the years. He is truly a worthy recipient of the President's Medal.



Presidential Address



I now come to the BDIAP Cunningham Medal recipient for 2015. The BDIAP was founded in 1961 largely due to the energy and drive of George Cunningham and the eponymous medal is given for services to the BDIAP. Looking back at the last 5 years, recipients were 2009 Carol Harris for her indefatigable support of the Division. In 2010 it was, the late and much missed Bryan Warren who was our Meetings' Secretary for many years, 2011 Elizabeth Whelan who has been the publisher rock for our journal Histopathology for as long as I can remember, 2012 Claude Cuvelier who has fulfilled several roles in the Division including President and is now one of the IAP's European Vice-Presidents, 2013 Steve Wells who has also done several roles but is especially noted for his work as Divisional Editor (and in fact still looks after our website and uploads necessary data and meetings' material) and finally in 2014 Mike Wells who was General Secretary for many years, has been our President and was Editor of Histopathology for 9 years. I am delighted to say that this year's recipient was Neil Shepherd. Why Neil? He first joined Council in 1998, became General Secretary in 2000 until becoming President-Elect in 2008, President in 2010 and Past-President in 2014. Those stark statistics, although impressive, do not do him justice for, with Bryan Warren and Geraint Williams (what a triumvirate), he has been at the forefront in organising the many BDIAP GI meetings over the years. Again, when considering nominations for the Cunningham medal at last Spring's nominations sub-committee, the decision was unanimous and immediate.

I am greatly looking forward to my second year as your President and am sure I will be equally impressed and well-entertained as we have a feast of meetings for members to enjoy. I hope to see many of you there!

PROFESSOR ALASTAIR BURT

EDITOR IN CHIEF HISTOPATHOLOGY

Greetings from Down Under! We are just at the end of our main summer holiday period in Adelaide; Australia Day tends to mark the transition from a period of relative calm to frenetic activity in the universities and laboratories. Over the break though I was reflecting on how the journal fared over the past year.

2015 was another outstanding year for *Histopathology*. We saw a record number of submitted manuscripts eventually reaching just under 850. We are continuing to see papers submitted from centres that more traditionally publish in competitor American journals. The editors have seen some outstanding, cutting edge, original research submitted within the last year that will, I am sure, be highly cited and of great impact in our profession.

We have managed to continue our excellent service to authors, maintaining competitive turnaround times and times to Early View publications as PDFs. We have also maintained our commitment to including at least one review article per issue.

Given the astonishing throughput of high quality manuscripts, we have developed a minor backlog in terms of time to publication in a formal issue of the journal (although this is less of a problem given our move to publish firstly as Accepted Articles and more importantly as Early View PDFs in a timely manner). The editorial team has been increasing the threshold for acceptance recently and we believe that we are now on the right trajectory to get back to the sort of steady state where we ideally should have approximately 3 months worth of copy in advance.

We held a very successful editorial board meeting in London in May 2015. This broke from the usual tradition of holding it in November and all feel that this is a better time of year given that all production data at Wiley Blackwell is then available for review from the previous year. The meeting was once again a forum for lively debate and reflection on areas for further improvement. Following the meeting we now have a reporting mechanism for performance of Associate Editors, policies regarding multiple lead authorship, a default position of having two reviewers for all original articles, improved access for Associate Editors to statistical review, updating of guidelines for authors regarding biomarker studies and a change in the length of abstracts up to 250 words. At the meeting, the Board reaffirmed the importance of having original articles contain at least some element of morphology or linkage to this and that there is no desire to return to the inclusion of pure mechanistic papers.

EDITOR IN CHIEF

We have seen some recent changes in the editorial team in the past year with Richard Logan joining to cover aspects of Oral Pathology. We have also recently recruited a new ENT Associate Editor, Ann Sandison and a new Associate Editor for Dermatopathology, Thomas Brenn. John Goepel continues as the Technical Editor and is doing a fantastic job and Simon Cross is providing invaluable support as the Statistics Advisor.

The ARI for 2016 on the topic of Breast Pathology with Laura Collins, Puay Hoon Tan and Gary Tse as the guest editors was published on time. This is another landmark issue and one that I am sure which will be well received by the pathological community. The topic for the 2017 ARI is 'Surgical Pathology of 21st Century Medicine'; this will include papers on iatrogenic disease in its broadest sense and the role of the histopathologist in assessing this.

The Roger Cotton prize remains an important aspect of the Journal's activities and a powerful marketing tool. The 2015 prize was recently announced and was won by a team from Belgium; this will be well publicised at the USCAP meeting in Seattle. On the topic of USCAP I hope that those of you that will be attending the meeting will join us at our annual reception at this important meeting.

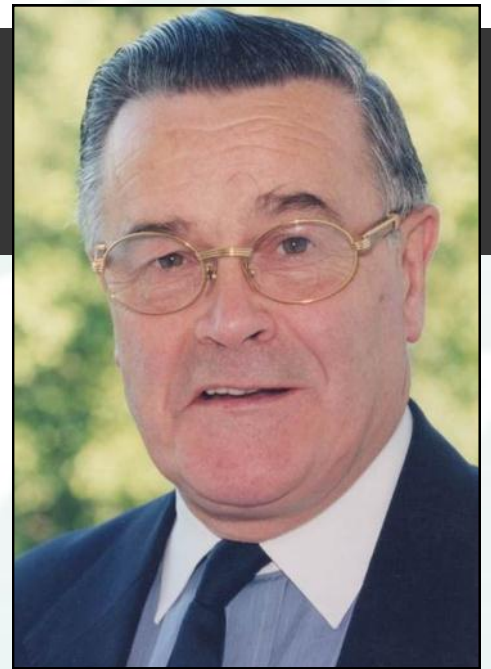
Finally, as many of you will now know, Sir Roddy MacSween sadly died at the end of last year. Roddy was a Past President of the BDIAP and one of my predecessors as Editor in Chief. In that role he applied his characteristic enthusiasm, dedication and flair, steering the journal into the electronic era. He was a very close friend and mentor; I will miss his sage advice and wise counsel.

PROFESSOR ALASTAIR BURT
EDITOR IN CHIEF
HISTOPATHOLOGY



Tribute to the late Professor Sir Roddy MacSween

2nd February 1935 – 11th December 2015



Professor Sir Roddy MacSween, formerly President of the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology (BDIAP), Editor in Chief of *Histopathology* and Professor of Pathology at the University of Glasgow died on 11 December 2015 at the age of 80 after a long illness.

Roderick Norman McIver MacSween was born on 2 February 1935 on the Isle of Lewis. His native tongue was Gaelic but he learnt English at Knochiandu Primary School before going on to continue his secondary education in Skye and Inverness. He obtained his tertiary education at the University of Glasgow from which he graduated BSc (Hons in Physiology) in 1956 and then MB ChB in 1959. During his undergraduate years he participated fully in student life, serving as President of the University Liberal Club and Education Secretary of the British Medical Students' Association.

He undertook house jobs in Professorial Units at Glasgow's Royal and Western Infirmaries and went on to gain experience in clinical medicine, infectious diseases and virology, becoming a member of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of Glasgow and Edinburgh in 1964. The year before, he joined Professor Dan Cappell's Department of Pathology at the Western Infirmary. At that time Cappell had the vision of sub-specialisation in surgical pathology aligned to different organ systems, a model that is now widely practiced around the world. Roddy himself had been stimulated by his post mortem findings of patients with haemochromatosis and elected to develop an interest in liver disease, a field in which he went on to build an international reputation.

He married Marjory Brown, a fellow medical student, in 1961. Marjory, a dermatologist supported him unstintingly in all his professional activities. They went on to restore a ruined cottage in Kintyre where they spent most family holidays with their two children Ruth, also a dermatologist, and Gordon, an engineer and business consultant whom he taught to play golf from an early age.

After gaining his MRCPATH in 1967 and strongly encouraged by Cappell, he secured a post-graduate fellowship that allowed him to study at the University of Colorado Medical Centre for two years where he gained expertise in clinical hepatology and gastroenterology. When he returned to Glasgow in 1970, he was awarded a Wellcome Senior Research Fellowship and worked with Professor John Anderson gaining an MD with Honours in 1973 for a thesis on "*Clinico-pathological and immunological studies in liver disease*". He rose rapidly through the ranks of Senior Lecturer, Reader and Titular Professor and in 1994 succeeded Anderson as the sixth Chair of Pathology at the Western and Head of Department, positions he held until retirement in 1999.

He had by that stage become an outstanding interpreter of liver biopsies with a national and international reputation and an increasing worldwide referral practice. In 1978 he was invited to join a group of distinguished international hepatopathologists that had become established under the aegis of the European Association for the Study of the Liver.

Professor Sir Roddy MacSween

This panel was known as the Gnomes as their first meeting had been held in Zurich (a term coined by the late Dame Shelia Sherlock). This is a group that over the years has contributed immensely to our understanding of the tissue response to liver injury and both classification and assessment of chronic liver disease. From the word go, Roddy was a very active member of this group; photographs of the Gnomes from that era invariably show him centre stage, many with his characteristic animated hand gestures.

In 1979 Roddy published the first edition of *Pathology of the Liver* with Peter Anthony and Peter Scheuer as co-editors. This authoritative textbook rapidly became the standard for both pathologists and clinicians around the globe. The textbook's comprehensive nature was reflected in a review that stated "if it's not in MacSween it's not in the liver". The fifth edition in 2006 was retitled as *MacSween's Pathology of the Liver*; one of us (ADB) is proud to be the current Editor in Chief with the 7th edition now well under development.

In 1992 he edited the 13th Edition of *Muir's Textbook of Pathology* having contributed chapters to several previous editions of this standard textbook that had first been written by Sir Robert Muir in the Western Infirmary in 1924. He also edited seven volumes of the review book "*Recent Advances in Histopathology*" widely (mis) perceived by trainees at the time of being the subject matter and template for the next diet of written exams of the MRCPATH!

Roddy was editor of *Histopathology* from 1985 to 1996 and President of the BDIAP from 1989 to 1991. He famously described his editorship as 'taking the journal through its difficult teenage years'. Under his stewardship submissions and subscriptions increased year-on-year, with a doubling of turnover. Furthermore he established the journal's true international presence. These were commendable achievements in their own right but all the more remarkable given that his tenure as Editor coincided with a period of great, perhaps unprecedented, change in learned journal publishing. So during these difficult 'teenage years', he nurtured *Histopathology* through a very difficult transition, not least that of a move from print-only to print and online.

The final year of his editorship saw the last of the routinely-produced annual bound volumes, leather-cased and over-printed in gold leaf (to be replaced by the, albeit short-lived, cumulative CD-ROM) and, of greater significance, *Histopathology's* first electronic, or online, issue, proudly promoted as: "*Histopathology* now available on the World Wide Web through Journals-on-Line". Although very exciting, and totally supported by Roddy, all such innovations inevitably impacted on his day-to-day work practices, the most notable being the need to ask his authors to submit the final version of their accepted papers in electronic format! At the time this concerned him on a number of fronts, not least the worry that the incorrect version might be published. He also worried lest the move from paper to author-generated disc might lead to a reduction in the quality of publication - he was unremitting in the expectation that his publisher produce the 'perfect' issue; rightly, drawing to our attention the smallest 'blemish' and asking, albeit with the greatest courtesy, for the reason for this.

Professor Sir Roddy MacSween

Whilst adjusting to what might best be described as technological changes, other changes were also occurring at this time, many of which created additional pressures for an editor, the increasing relevance of the Impact Factor being but one example. This created division of thought, then as now, with editors often caught in the middle of their boards, some members advocating that editorial policies should be such that they seek to enhance the Impact Factor, others (equally firmly) of the view that a journal exists to serve its readership and should not, therefore, be 'slave' to bibliometrics. *Histopathology* was no exception with some Board members, for example, urging Roddy to stop publishing case reports, with others, whilst arguing against this, reminding him that case report authors of 'today' are tomorrow's authors of original research articles.

During his term as President of the BDIAP he played a key role in raising the international profile of the Division and oversaw the introduction of new funding schemes particularly in medical education. His support of the BDIAP was unstinting and though quite unwell at the time during his final year of life he was a powerful ambassador for the society, playing an instrumental part in BDIAP winning the bid to host the 2020 World Congress in Glasgow.

His acumen in medical politics led to him becoming Vice-President of the Royal College of Pathologists from 1995-1996 and, following in the footsteps of John Anderson, he served as President from 1996-1999. His leadership skills were recognised by his peers in other medical disciplines and he served as Chairman of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges from 1998-2000. There was probably none better to get surgeons, physicians and anaesthetists all talking to one another - and sometimes agreeing! He retired in 1999 and was knighted in 2000 for services to Medicine and Pathology. He was delighted to receive a DSc from his *alma mater* in 2007.

Roddy's phenomenal success was due to a number of attributes. Firstly, he worked extremely hard: he described himself a 'workaholic.' This was an ethos that rubbed off on many that worked with him. He had high expectations of himself but also of those in his team. Secondly he was always exceptionally well prepared. One of us (ADB) remembers well their first presentation to a meeting of the Pathological Society as a young medical student. Shortly before standing up to present, Roddy turned and said "I am sure you probably have a dry mouth and feel a real knot in your stomach right now. Don't worry; that's OK. It's the adrenaline and remember you will always need a bit of that to give you the edge". Roddy himself gave hundreds of presentations around the world, and never lost that edge, preparing impeccably for every presentation, wowing audiences whenever he spoke.

He was a wonderful mentor and supervisor to many whose careers have been heavily influenced by him. One of us (ADB) was amongst a number of individuals that Roddy encouraged and supported in their pursuit of an

understanding of liver disease. Probably the first was Howard Thomas who went on to lead the successful liver unit at St Mary's Hospital and become an eminent figure in viral hepatitis. Later there was Linda Ferrell who went on to run the Department of Pathology as UCSF. The list also includes Ken Hillan who went on to be a Director of Genentech in San Francisco, Irene Ng (Hong Kong), Ismail Metalka and Essam Raweilly (Jordan), Alan Paterson (South Africa), Funda Yilmaz (Turkey), Judit Makinen, (Finland), Dina Tiniakos (originally Athens, now Newcastle), David Harrison (Edinburgh) and more recently Karen Owen in Glasgow.

Professor Sir Roddy MacSween

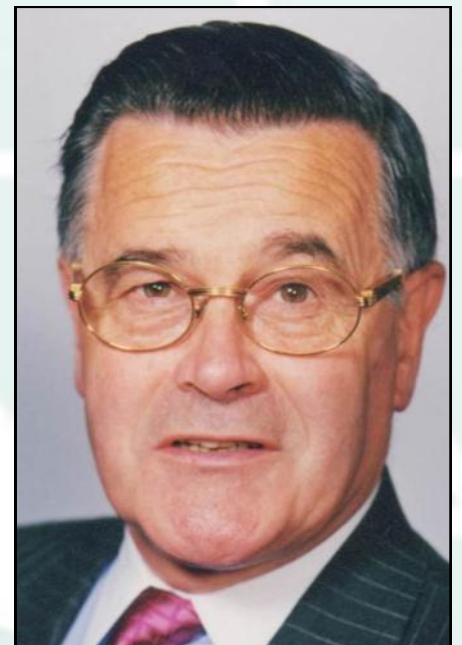
His enthusiastic professional support was not by any means restricted to those wanting to learn about the liver. Generations of pathologists that had come through the Western either as local trainees such as Robin Reid and Alan Foulis or visitors from elsewhere in the UK or overseas fell under his tutelage. He and Marjory were generous hosts to a stream of visiting trainees from Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia as they prepared for the final MRCPPath. The welcome dinners that they held for these guests in the MacSween residence were legendary. His sartorial elegance was legendary. In the early days his trips to the College in London were mainly done on the “*Sleeper frae Galsgie*”; there are few that could emerge at daybreak at the other end so immaculately presented and ready for business than Roddy.

His energetic style extended beyond his professional life. He was as driven on the golf course as he was in the laboratory. He was at one time a member of four golf clubs notably the Glasgow Golf Club, and served as Captain of Dunaverty and Machrihanish Golf Clubs in 1973 and 1980 respectively. He gardened and hill-walked in a similarly enthusiastic manner and was the 114th President of the Bridgeton Burns Club in 1983/4.

In retirement Roddy continued to be much in demand. His charitable works included serving as Chairman of Tenovus Scotland, Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Children’s Liver Foundation and as a Committee Member of the British Lung Foundation (Scotland). He was Chair of the Unrelated Live Transplant Regulatory Authority and President of the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow.

After Roddy died, we received a large number of e-mails when colleagues heard of the news. One of these messages was particularly poignant. It read: “Our hearts are heavy with this news. Even across a crowded meeting hall you could easily sense Roddy’s abundant charm, his great warmth and his personal affection as well as his generosity. How easily he could make us all smile. I have a photograph of him holding the first edition of his book which captures that as well as his boyish pride”. Another email said that they felt that Roddy had been to them like “a kind uncle, someone from whom they could always obtain sage advice”. To others, Roddy was more like a professional father. We are proud and honoured to have worked with, and been inspired by him for so many years. His legacy to pathology and more broadly in medicine shall never be forgotten.

ALASTAIR BURT and ELIZABETH WHELAN



Professor Sir Roddy MacSween
2nd February 1935 – 11th December 2015

MEETING SECRETARY REPORT

Prof. Ian SD Roberts



2015 was a memorable year for BDIAP meetings. The first annual Joint Meeting of the BDIAP and Pathological Society of GB & Ireland took place in Dublin at the end of June. It was a great success, with 545 delegates, thanks in part to an excellent scientific and educational programme and also to the venue (DoubleTree Hilton) which was perfect for a meeting of this size. Particular thanks should go to local organisers Cecily Quinn and Kieran Sheahan. Kieran's contacts also enabled us to hold the congress dinner at the magnificent Dublin Castle, with a record 200 attendees.

In November, we held our first ever joint meeting with the British Association of Urological Pathologists. Thanks to a great programme put together by Dan Berney and Ash Chandra, this was very popular – for the first time ever we had to close registration nearly a month before the meeting. The overseas speakers, Jonathan Epstein, Victor Reuter and Glenn Kristiansen gave particularly inspiring talks.

2016 has got off to a great start with successful trainees' and molecular pathology meetings in London, thanks to the efforts of organiser Lisa Browning. The next dates for your diary are 28-30th June, the Joint BDIAP/Pathological Society meeting in Nottingham. Registration is now open at <http://www.path.org.uk/>. The programme and venue are excellent, thanks to local organisers Ian Ellis, Mohammad Ilyas and Emad Rakha. Make sure you sign up for the social events – the reception at Nottingham Castle, with Robin Hood and friends, and the Congress dinner, with post-dinner dodgems – drinking and driving allowed!

In the autumn is the Joint IAP/ESP Congress in Cologne, 18-22nd September, followed by the winter BDIAP meeting in London, 2-3rd December. The theme is upper gastrointestinal and pancreatic pathology. Marco Novelli and Fiona Campbell have put together a great programme, so register early to avoid disappointment. After that we are looking forward to the 2017 Joint BDIAP/Pathological Society meeting, 20-23rd June, at the very impressive Belfast Waterfront Conference Centre.



Hello from our communications Manager!

Claire Murray



My first month with the BDIAP has been a gentle introduction in to your world and what lies beneath & it's hugely interesting.

Coming from a retail background gives me certain insights into people's behaviour, especially how they use their online presence in almost every aspect of their lives, both personal and professional.

I've also been involved, for some time, with the use for social media, both within the retail & small business environments – with their differing requirements – and this too means a greater understanding of what people need from the digital environment.

My plans going forwards are to explore the ways in which the BDIAP can evolve and fill the niche there is for it in this digital landscape, making use of the resources contained within the organisation, as well as looking at enhancing the digital footprint of the events, workshops & organisation more generally so that we make the best of this unique environment.

This probably all sounds lovely.... But what does it actually mean in reality?

A new responsive design website – our first priority is to provide members & visitors alike a great looking but fully adaptable website which offers them the access they require to the resources they need and want.

Increased content – a wider range of information from across the BDIAP letting you know who is doing what where & how you can get involved too, with dedicated sections for Bursaries and our international activities.

Integrated social media – using social media to advertise our events/workshops etc. will help us reach out to the audience we're currently missing out on!

Webinars – online conversations which provide the opportunity to learn from some of the world's foremost subject experts, including screen sharing/video/immediate feedback on shared documents.

A mobile app – developed to allow members access to all their resources wherever & whenever they need them from a single press of the screen. A portal, so to speak, to the BDIAP's knowledge bank but in the palm of your hand.

This is a big wish list and will obviously take some development work, as well as time & patience, to come to fruition!

There will be quick wins but some parts of the project will require consultation, careful testing, and a period of stability before being handed over so we don't expect everything to be in place in the near future.

As things are rolled out, however, it will be our pleasure to announce them as well as invite you all to let us know what you think – your feedback is very important!

2016 is going to be very exciting for all of us!

Claire Murray
Communications Manager.
February 2016.

BDIAP diplomat for South Africa 24th September to 3rd of October 2015

Prof. Mary Shepherd



I was delighted to be invited to South Africa for the annual IAP Congress organised by Martin Hale in Johannesburg 24th-25th of September. It was Professor Dan Berney who as overseas representative of the BDIAP who invited me. I was flattered as I thought that the heart did not interest the IAP but I was proved wrong and Martin organised a very full and busy schedule for me so the BDIAP got its money worth ! While there I caught up with Dan briefly on Saturday the 26th where we had dinner at the old Marlborough College restaurant organised by Martin and his wife Sharon, who teaches there. Dan was off to Botswana the following day.



Martin Hale and myself looking at slides

Martin Hale is well known to us all as he organised the world IAP Congress in Capetown in 2012 which I had attended and organised the cardiovascular sessions which were well attended by both forensic and general pathologists. I had arrived after the overnight flight from Heathrow and Martin personally collected me from the airport and drove me to the Sunnyside Hotel which is near the Witwatersrand University (WITS). I was very anxious to go to his department despite the jet lag because I had left my USB sticks behind in London with all my talks!. I spent two anxious hours liaising with his IT expert Gerrie Van Der Westhuizen to download my talks which we did via team viewer. Once you have team viewer you can access your PC from anywhere in the world and download all of your talks!. This is a piece of advice that I would give to anybody travelling and lecturing! Martin has spent his entire career working in the public sector both in Zimbabwe and South Africa. He has a special interest in infectious disease especially HIV and malignancy. We spent a happy hour looking at slides from HIV related pathology. Martin exhibited kindness and courtesy to me. I noted his calming interaction with his department and visitors to the Congress. He never lost his cool as many demands were being made on him and seems to have time for everybody . ! The School of Pathology has responsibilities to the Faculty of Health Sciences and the National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS) with staff having dual appointments within both. There is a big challenge in South Africa because of the dominance of the private sector with most pathologists working in private laboratories with salaries to match. The public sector cannot compete with the salaries provided and thus suffer severe lack of resources and staff which was a recurring theme in every Department I visited throughout my time in South Africa.

It was gratifying to hear from Martin that histopathologists do have to do several autopsies as part of their training programme. As a result most trainees including forensic trainees had a lively interest in my cardiac lectures during the IAP Congress and particularly the work shop dealing with cardiac dissection. I am very grateful to Martin as he personally collected 20 bovine hearts from the local abattoir and brought them to the University of Witwatersrand. The trainees were able to dissect each large heart (being three times the size of the average human heart) .

Martin Hale is well known to us all as he organised the world IAP Congress in Capetown in 2012 which I had attended and organised the cardiovascular sessions which were well attended by both forensic and general pathologists. I had arrived after the overnight flight from Heathrow and Martin personally collected me from the airport and drove me to the Sunnyside Hotel which is near the Witwatersrand University (WITS). I was very anxious to go to his department despite the jet lag because I had left my USB sticks behind in London with all my talks!. I spent two anxious hours liaising with his IT expert Gerrie Van Der Westhuizen to download my talks which we did via team viewer. Once you have team viewer you can access your



*Trainees cardiac dissection workshop
Witwatersrand during IAP congress*

South Africa visiting professor program



This part I thoroughly enjoyed and felt a very positive interaction with the trainees whose enthusiasm was infectious!. September 24 was National Braai day in South Africa which is also National Heritage day. Everybody at the congress joined in the a barbecue with typical South Africa meats ! We had a beautiful Braai in the sunshine with all the IAP participants and I met my old friend Ann Nelson with whom I had worked at the AFIP in Washington in the mid 1990s. She was the other visiting professor who expertise is HIV. We both did the South African IAP tour in opposite directions. !

There was also a meeting of the ASAP while I was in Johannesburg and I met John Flanigan and Diomande Mohenou with Anne. Martin and his wife Sharon



Braai day in grounds of Witswatersrand

entertained us with great attention to detail in Johannesburg including Sophia's restaurant in Rosebank where there was also a wonderful market full of African artefacts and jewellery. Not only does the market contain South African art and curios, it also includes art and crafts from all over the African continent. I would recommended it highly and came away with multiple items including native stone jewellery and bright fabrics after intense bargaining and haggling.!



Anne nelson , Diomande Mohenou, John Flanigan,

On Sunday 27 September I departed from Johannesburg to Bloemfonten where I was met by Jackie Goedhals who is head of the department of pathology at the University of the Free State. I had already

met her at the IAP meeting in Johannesburg where she chaired my session on myocarditis. Next morning I gave lecture on cardiac dissection to the trainees. It was interesting to hear about the

challenges faced by the medical curriculum which is given in both English and Afrikaans !. There is a big problem in trying to recruit teachers who can speak both languages! From there I flew that day 28th September to Durban on the Pacific Coast. The next day I visited the University of Kwa Zulu Natal when I was met by Professor Pratista Ramdial and her staff who presented interesting cardiac cases.



Trainees, Blomfontein



Jackie Goedhals, Blomfontein



University of Kwa Zulu Natal

South Africa visiting professor program



I flew onto Port Elizabeth on the 29th where I was looked after by Professor Colleen Wright. She showed me one of the largest tuberculosis microbiology labs units in the world with state-of-the-art molecular diagnosis! She also gave me a wooden figurine of a cardiac pathologist complete with heart and dissecting knife which I will treasure for the rest of my life as a memento of my trip to South Africa.



Professor Colleen Wright

A Cardiac pathologist

From Port Elizabeth I flew onto Capetown where I met Professor Helen Wainwright at the University of Capetown where she showed me their wonderful pathology museum dominated by what I call the Silver Angel of Death hovering in the ceiling. This was a rather apt reminder to us all of our mortality. I did a cardiac dissection workshop. I also visited Groot Schur Hospital and the heart transplant museum. In the afternoon I went to the University of Stellenbosch where I did a cardiac workshop and lecture with Professor Johann Schneider and colleagues with plenty of questions !



Angel of death in Capetown pathology museum

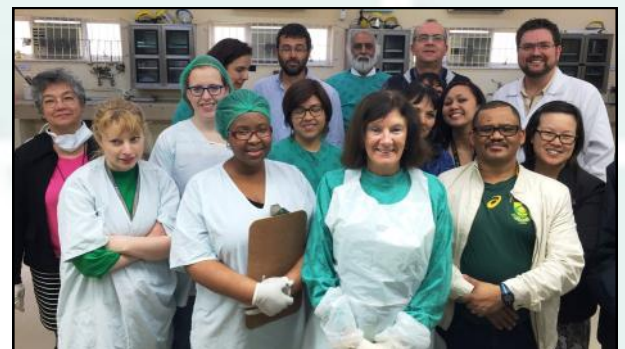


Professor Helen Wainwright

Angel of death in Capetown pathology museum



Trainees, University of Capetown



Trainees, Stellenbosch



Stellenbosch with Johann Schneider

I returned home with wonderful memories of my trip to South Africa which was very well-organised with no glitches in travelling. I felt everywhere that there was an enthusiastic reception for cardiac pathology and I made many contacts which I hope to maintain into the future. I think the program is excellent with a wonderful opportunity to meet many colleagues and trainees. Also meeting the young trainees opened my eyes to the emerging young pathology talent that is being nurtured in South Africa. Thanks to the BDIAP for the support provided.

“Hvala puno”

9th Bryan Warren School of Pathology,

November 2015

Professors Stefan Hübscher and Fiona Campbell



After departing rather early in the morning from the UK, Stefan Hübscher (University of Birmingham) and I (Fiona Campbell, Royal Liverpool University Hospital) met at Munich airport for the flight to Sarajevo. On board with us was Paddy Ashdown, who was flying to Sarajevo to deliver a lecture at a conference marking the 20th anniversary of the end of the Bosnian war. Stefan and I were there to lecture at the 9th Bryan Warren School of Pathology (BWSP) on Liver Pathology and Pancreas Pathology, respectively. We were both honoured to be asked by the BDIAP to provide two days of lectures and slide seminars at the BWSP, held at the University of Sarajevo on 6th and 7th of November 2015.

We received a very warm welcome from the receptionist at our hotel, a building full of character, charm and steps, several in unexpected places. One of our meeting organisers and hosts, Dr Semir Vranić, arrived and drove us to a viewpoint high on a hillside overlooking a rather foggy Sarajevo. An impressive sight. This was followed by a walk around the old town and dinner at a typical Bosnian restaurant where the food was excellent.

On the first day of the School, Semir kindly introduced us to his co-host Dr Faruk Skenderi and to the 45 delegates from Austria, Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia and Turkey. The first session consisted of lectures on (i) anatomy, histology and dissection of the pancreas, (ii) pancreatitis, and (iii) how to approach a medical liver biopsy. The latter lecture emphasised the need to interpret pathology in context (of clinical information), a favourite topic of Bryan Warren. From the start, the interaction with the audience was fabulous. Questions and answers flowed, accompanied by much humour. Lectures on acute hepatitis and chronic hepatitis followed a coffee break, and movement and enticing smells from the mezzanine above the lecture theatre signalled lunch. Informal discussion continued over a lovely lunch, before an afternoon lecture on pancreatic ductal carcinoma and its differential diagnosis. Another of Bryan Warren's catchphrases, 'low power lens, high power brain' was very pertinent to the discussion on differential diagnosis. Slide seminars on pancreatic pathology and focal hepatocellular lesions completed the afternoon programme. This was followed by an impromptu session at a multiheaded microscope looking at slides of difficult cases brought by some of the delegates. There was interactive discussion about the cases and much was learnt by all. In the evening, the course dinner – a venerable feast – was held in an underground restaurant with traditional musical accompaniment. Stefan and I were not as energetic as the dancers amongst the delegates.



“Hvala puno”



Saturday morning's lectures were on (i) chronic biliary disease, (ii) fatty liver disease, (iii) cystic tumours of the pancreas and (iv) diagnostic pitfalls in pancreatic pathology. Again, the audience participation was tremendous, adding to the discussion of differential diagnoses and rarer entities. Morning coffee break allowed the opportunity for a group photograph. After lunch, interactive slide seminars on focal biliary/other liver lesions, and pancreatic cysts concluded the course. Farewells were made between friends, old and new, and while Stefan went off to watch a (disappointing for him, but not for me) football match, I went on an evening walking tour with the self-described 'most eccentric tour guide in Sarajevo'. He certainly lived up to his billboard. It was a very entertaining and most memorable tour of the sights and history of Sarajevo.

Semir and Faruk are to be congratulated on hosting such an excellent meeting. The communication before the meeting was meticulous, the hospitality most generous, the audience participation fantastic, and the whole experience great fun and rewarding. “Hvala puno” (thank you very much) to everyone in Sarajevo.



Sarajevo 2015 group photograph



Successful pilot of laboratory capacity building program ends with regional conference in Kampala, Uganda

For the last 2½ years, the BDIAP has been working with the Royal College of Pathologists (RCPath), the College of Pathologists of East, Central and Southern Africa (COPECSA) and leading pathologists in the ECSA region to pilot LABSKILLS AFRICA.

Supported by the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC), LABSKILLS AFRICA is a health systems strengthening initiative established to build capacity and improve the standards and quality of pathology diagnostic and laboratory medicine services in sub-Saharan Africa through skills training, knowledge transfer, leadership development and mentoring.

Working at country level with the Kenyan Association of Clinical Pathologists (KACP), the Association of Pathologists of Tanzania (APT); the Association of Pathologists of Uganda (APU); the Zimbabwe Association of Pathologists (ZAP) and University Teaching Hospital Lusaka (UTH), LABSKILLS was piloted in 20 public sector laboratories in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe between 2013 and 2015. Four laboratories were selected in each country, which together serve a combined population of 110 million and perform more than 1.7 million tests annually.

Alongside the program's regional and country partners, the Aga Khan University Hospital Nairobi (AKUHN) and the University of Stellenbosch served as technical partners by contributing to the development and implementation of two LABSKILLS courses covering technical (bench) skills development for laboratory technologists and technicians and a leadership and quality management course, which trained pathologists, senior biomedical scientists and laboratory managers.

The pilot focused on improving seven key tests that are critical for the diagnosis and management of many conditions that are common in sub-Saharan Africa and which are associated with childhood and maternal mortality, such as severe anaemia, malaria, TB, HIV/AIDS and neglected tropical diseases. The aim of LABSKILLS was to contribute towards the improvement of

clinical decision-making and increase patient safety by raising the standards and quality of specific laboratory services and tests, which support the diagnosis and management of health conditions related to reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and combatting HIV/AIDS, malaria and other communicable diseases.

LabSkills Africa: Key Tests

- Rapid HIV antibody
- Rapid Malaria
- Haemoglobin determination
- Urinalysis
- Malaria smear
- TB Smear microscopy
- Peripheral blood film



COPECSA Secretar-General & LabSkills CountryLeads:
*Dr Shahin Sayed, Dr Andrew Gachii; Dr Edda Vuhahula;
Dr Robert Lukande; Dr Maxwell Hove; Dr Victor Mudenda*

Impact: what difference did we make?

The LABSKILLS initiative produced the following results:

- The program trained 100 laboratory medicine healthcare professionals (pathologists, biomedical scientists, laboratory technologists and laboratory technicians) across all five pilot countries.
- Two laboratory capacity building courses covering leadership, quality management and bench competencies were established and delivered.
- Three External Quality Assurance (EQA) assessment exercises, were conducted by AKUHN. These assessments showed demonstrable improvement in the EQA results of the participating laboratories.

Measurable improvements in the quality and accuracy of diagnostic tests performed by the participating laboratories were achieved and could be shown under the program.

- The capacity and capability of laboratories in Kenya and Zimbabwe was developed, enabling them to produce in-house controls for Haemoglobin Estimation and Urinalysis.
- 70% of participating laboratories reduced their turn around times by an average of 20%.
- Following training, LabSkills participants were able to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for their laboratories where none had previously existed.
- 5 national Laboratory Improvement Projects were implemented, which focused on:
 - ◊ Improving quality and accuracy of HB estimation results & reporting (Kenya)
 - ◊ Point of Care Testing (POCT) for HIV (Tanzania)
 - ◊ Improving standards and practices for Malaria diagnosis (Uganda)
 - ◊ Strengthening the clinician – laboratory interface (Zambia)
 - ◊ Standardising methods and equipment validation for HIV, TB, Peripheral Blood Film, HB, Urinalysis and Malaria (Zimbabwe)
- 95% of participating laboratories conducted laboratory user surveys and made improvements based on the findings.
- The confidence of clinician in the reliability of the test results produced by the participating laboratories has been greatly improved.
- The professional relationship between pathologists, scientists and technologists has improved.
- The foundation for the development of a regional laboratory improvement network has been established – a 'LabSkills Africa Partnership for East, Central & Southern Africa'.
- The skills, knowledge and expertise of 30 highly qualified and experienced pathologist, biomedical and clinical scientists were leveraged as volunteer Course Mentors. Drawn from the UK, Republic of Ireland, Canada, Australia, South Africa and Nigeria, these volunteers mentored laboratories and course participants; delivered on-site training and undertook laboratory visits in order to assess progress.



LabSkills Mentors: Prof. Sajjid Mirza & Dr Neha Bhatnagar

- The LabSkills Africa Recognition Awards Scheme (LARA) was established in order to recognise improved performance, innovation and excellence amongst the participating laboratories and the professionals who were trained and mentored under the program.

Kampala conference (September 2015)

The pilot phase of LABSKILLS AFRICA culminated in a multidisciplinary international conference, which took place in Kampala, Uganda in September 2015. The conference was supported by APECSA and was attended by LABSKILLS participants, course mentors, Country Leads and several dignitaries, including representatives of the Minister of Health of Uganda and Professor Yoswa Dam-bisa, the Director-General, ECSA-HC.

The conference was chaired by Dr Robert Lukande and other speakers included COPECSA's Secretary-General, Dr Shahin Sayed, the President of the College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA) and leading experts in the fields of global health emergencies, anti-microbial resistance, laboratory accreditation, cancer diagnosis and surveillance.

Dr Alec Howat with Dr Shahin Sayed (COPECSA) & Dr Zahir Molloo (AKUHN)



Dr Alec Howat with Dr Maadh Aldouri, RCPATH's Director of International Affairs



LabSkills Africa: Kampala conference delegates

LABSKILLS AFRICA was funded by the UK Department for International Development (UKAID). Work will commence in the New Year to develop the 'next steps' for LABSKILLS in the ECSA region.

**Dr Alec Howat
President**



African Organisation on Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC) 2015 - 10th International Conference on Cancer in Africa, Marrakech, Morocco

18 - 22 November 2015

Dr. Olorunda Rotimi



The African Organisation on Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC) is the largest organisation of cancer specialists in Africa and they meet biannually. For the 2015 conference, the organisers invited myself and our retired chief biomedical scientist, Mr Peter Jackson to facilitate a one-day hands-on practical workshop on immunohistochemistry at the 2015 Conference in Marrakech, Morocco. This was part of the pre-conference postgraduate programme in pathology. BDIAP kindly co-sponsored us to deliver this workshop aimed at scientists and pathologists in Africa attending the conference.

The workshop took place at the well-equipped laboratory and lecture theatre of the Mohammed VI University Hospital in Marrakech. There were 30 participants comprising 10 scientists and 20 pathologists. The participants were from 10 African countries and 3 more faculty members from the USA. The morning session was a joint one for everyone with lectures on immunohistochemistry. After the mid-morning coffee break, the scientists and four pathologists went with Mr Jackson for the hands-on practical learning and performing staining using three antibodies. The remaining pathologists had some lectures on the uses of immunohistochemistry for undifferentiated epithelial and soft tissue tumours, brain tumours and lymphomas. In the late afternoon, we all came together to have a troubleshooting session where various practical challenges facing establishment of immunohistochemistry in the various countries present were discussed.



Marrakech University Hospital - practical workshop



The remaining pathologists had some lectures on the uses of immunohistochemistry for undifferentiated epithelial and soft tissue tumours, brain tumours and lymphomas. In the late afternoon, we all came together to have a troubleshooting session where various practical challenges facing establishment of immunohistochemistry in the various countries present were discussed.

The workshop was well received and the participants did express learning a lot from the sessions.

Many thanks to BDIAP for the sponsorship.
Dr Olorunda Rotimi

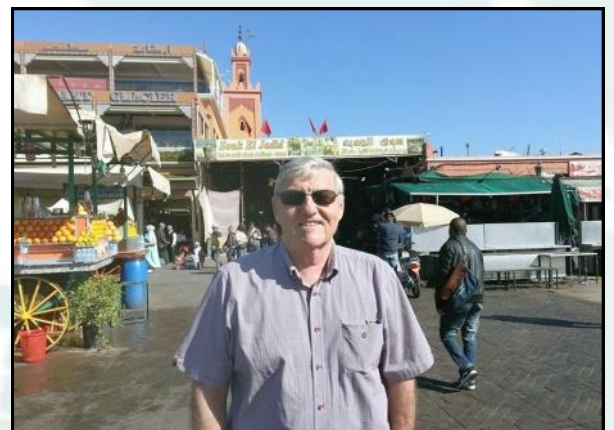
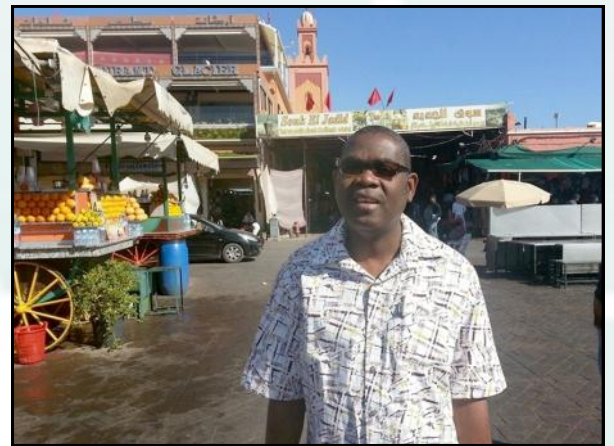
African Organisation on Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC) 2015 - 10th International Conference on Cancer



AORTIC 2015 group picture



Peter Jackson & Olorunda Rotimi outside the venue



Marrakech market place

Neuropathology teaching, September 7-9, 2015, East Africa School of Pathology

BP IAP Lecturers: Silvia Marino (Barts and The London Medical School, Queen Mary University London UK),

Sebastian Brandner (University College London UK)

Hosts: Ahmed Kalebi (Lancet Laboratories, Kenya),

Robert Lukande (Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda)



This was an exciting opportunity for us to discuss neuropathology with histopathology consultants and trainee pathologists from East Africa. We organised a three-days integrated teaching programme encompassing diagnostic surgical neuropathology, brain autopsies and digital pathology applied to diagnostic neuropathology. Attendees came from Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania. The course took place at Makerere University and Mulago Hospital in Kampala. Topics covered included molecular pathology of gliomas and its practical implementation in routine diagnostics, other brain tu-



mour entities which are defined by molecular alterations, recent updates in diagnosis and research of cerebral metastasis, peripheral neuropathies, post-mortem findings of stroke and trauma as well as CNS infections. In addition, we gave an overview of the UK neuropathology training, including academic training, highlighting opportunities at our institutions for trainees willing to deepen their neuropathology skills. We have made all the lectures available through shared Internet platforms and we were very pleased to hear from the many emails we received that these lectures could be downloaded and accessed effectively.

It was important for us to have an interactive program, and we had encouraged local pathologists to present challenging and interesting cases. Findings were presented with PowerPoint slides, but we had also the opportunity to review and discuss slides at a multiheader microscope. This was a unique opportunity for the local trainees to interact with the faculty. A digital camera attached to the microscope allowed us to project the slides and the entire audience was able to participate. Local pathologists Ahmed Kalebi, Edwin Walong, Charles Maina (Kenya), Thierry Zawadi (Rwanda) and Robert Lukande (Uganda) presented case series and case reports.



Neuropathology teaching, September 7-9, 2015, East Africa School of Pathology



We were impressed by the wonderful hospitality of the local organisers, the delicious local food at lunch and the opportunity we were offered to visit the local teaching facilities and hospital. The organisation of the event was impeccable despite the at times challenging local conditions. We were impressed by the drive and self-initiative of the organisers and attendees, for example the lack of internet connection in the lecture theatre was brilliantly overcome by the availability of mobile

broadband access. And we were delighted when we figured out that a microscope can be powered with the torch app of the mobile phone during the power cuts..... a local trainee's comment with eyes full of appreciation that with this attitude we would do very well in Africa, made us quite proud!

Overall a great experience for us and we would love to come back sometime!



8th International Junior Academy Summer School BDIAP Bursary Recipients' Report



Katie Allen & Matthew Clarke

After having had a fantastic experience at the 8th International Junior Academy Summer School we, Katie Allen and Matthew Clarke, would like to thank the BDIAP for their kind sponsorship.

The course took place at the Training Centre of the German Division of the IAP in the beautiful location of Bonn on the banks of the river Rhine. It was superbly led by Professor Kristin Henry and Professor Martin-Leo Hansmann. Special thanks to Martina Schmidt and her team who organised the sessions, the audio-visual, food and drink, hotel facilities and the great social programme.

Over the three days we received inspirational talks and slide seminars from speakers of the very highest quality. Professor Henry and Professor Hansmann both gave us truly excellent lymphoreticular teaching on the subjects of the dendritic cell family and related diseases, virus-associated LPDs and the diagnosis of lymphomas.

We received new insight into the importance of molecular pathology in tumour diagnosis with a talk from Dr Michael Kloth. On the subject of GI pathology we received two fascinating talks from Professor Ray McMahon covering the pathology of iatrogenic gastrointestinal tract disease and oesophageal cancer. Dr Nafisa Wilkinson provided absolutely invaluable sessions on gynaecological pathology with a fascinating update on ovarian tumours and benign endometrial pathology.



Dr. Wilkinson's sessions on Gynaecological Pathology

Professor Glen Kristansen gave us an extremely useful talk explaining the diagnostic criteria and mimickers of prostate cancer, and an update on the grading. Dr Thomas Brenn and Professor Abbas Agaimy extended our skin and soft tissue knowledge with talks on borderline melanocytic tumours, vasculitis and the use of immunohistochemistry in the diagnosis of soft tissue tumours. All the sessions were very interactive, providing frequent opportunities to ask questions and get involved with discussion about different cases. The presentations were all of excellent quality and contained plenty of different histology images of relevant cases, all of which were made available to us on a USB stick at the end of the academy.

We both had the opportunity to give a case presentation along with the other bursary recipients. This proved a valuable experience, with a variety of very interesting cases across the different histopathology specialties, challenging our diagnostic abilities and providing insightful discussion and feedback from the consultant body.



Boat trip on the Rhine

The social programme was very enjoyable, taking place in bright sunshine during the summer heat-wave. We were treated to a boat trip on the river Rhine, followed by transfer on the road train to then ride on the oldest cog railway in Germany to the summit of the Drachenfels. From the plateau of this volcanic hill we had a fantastic view of the Rhine, Bonn and even as far as Cologne. Our tour guide provided fascinating information on the history and geography of the surrounding area. We were then

fortunate to have a very interesting conducted tour around the beautiful Castle Drachenburg, followed by a tasty barbeque dinner in the grounds. This was the perfect opportunity to get to know our fellow participants, and learn about how histopathology training differs in different European countries and around the rest of the world.



Drachenburg Castle

Again, we would both like to thank the BDIAP for their sponsorship, and the German Division of the IAP for their kind hospitality and the fabulous programme that was provided. We feel we have come back not only with new knowledge but also inspired for our future careers. We would thoroughly recommend this academy to trainees of all stages who wish to expand their training and receive excellent teaching from experts in the field.



Thank you!



Dear members of the the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology,

With very much pleasure I would like to thank the BDIAP, for providing me the bursary to attend the 110th Symposium on Uropathology, held on the 20th - 21st November 2015 in the Royal College of Surgeons in London.

The Symposium was excellent organized and had great content with the presentation of the World experts. The value of the content was especially undeniable because the speakers described not only classification, clinical and diagnostic features, but also emphasized the changes in the new forthcoming WHO 2016. With very much interest we discussed already the practical application of these changes in the Department of Pathology, where I am on the rotation now (the Viecuri Hospital, Venlo, The Netherlands).

The slide seminal was highly educative and brought the deep insight in the diagnostic difficulties. It was very useful and interesting to try to solve the cases before the symposium and those cases I will remember probably forever. The presentations of the National Uropathology EQA were also very educative and the feedback from the pathologists let me also enjoy the famous British humor.

The meeting dinner was held in a very friendly atmosphere and the delisios food made it perfect. On the second day I had a few hours to take a bus tourist trip around London to see the world famous attractions. It was my first visit to London and it was a very educative and enjoyable stay.

Respectfully yours
Iryna

The complexity of course attendance..... the trainee perspective



Matthew Clarke and Katie Allen

Trainee attendance at courses is an expected part of their training. It is a feature of the annual ARCP and considered a necessary commitment to ensure the attainment of the skills needed to be a competent, safe and efficient histopathology consultant. Trainees can choose to attend a wide range of courses ranging from those that are specialty specific to more generalised revision courses, with the assistance of a study leave budget provided by their deanery.

Both the BDIAP and the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland have a keen interest in the future of training, in creating and also ensuring the longevity of these courses. A collaboration between the trainee councillors of the BDIAP and the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland saw the creation of a short survey which was distributed to the trainee membership of each society. It aimed to gather feedback from trainees regarding the factors that are important to them when selecting training courses.

The results proved to be very interesting. In summary, 75 responses were received from training schools across the UK and abroad. When asked which factors are most important when selecting a revision course, the most frequent response was 'topic' followed by 'cost' and 'location.' Most respondents felt that training courses were too expensive, with a significant proportion finding it 'difficult' or 'very difficult' to gain access to their study leave budgets. Also, 59% of respondents spend less than £500 and 41% spend greater than £500 beyond their study leave budgets on training courses each year. A combination of lecture and slide based courses is preferred, with 40% of respondents believing that courses should change their location each year to make it fairer to those trainees with further distances to travel and to save on accommodation costs of courses based in London. Only 5 respondents felt it was difficult to register for courses, and most felt it was either 'important' or 'very important' to attend courses to prepare for the FRCPath examinations.

Having completed the survey, the BDIAP and Pathological Society can now consider the issues raised and implement changes that they think appropriate. It was shown that the topic of the course is the most important factor when selecting a revision course. Through discussion between the BDIAP and Pathological Society committees, the feasibility of including courses recommended by the respondents can be examined. As expected, the cost of the course is an important factor and trainees are spending a significant amount of money beyond their study leave budget. In the current climate where study budgets are not carried over from year to year, efforts may be made to try and keep the costs of courses as low as possible to encourage attendance. The fact that some trainees are reporting difficulty accessing their budget for courses is a significant finding of concern for the histopathology deaneries and may warrant local investigation as this has an inevitable impact on training. By the nature of the specialty, trainees like to have slide based sessions and practical elements to the courses they attend. However, a combination of lectures and practical elements is the most popular option and this should be considered for the creation of future courses. Accessibility of courses is important and there was an almost equal split between the number of trainees who felt they should remain in the same location, and those that felt they should change each year. The logistics of moving course location can be analysed and considered as an option. However, thought will also be given to the team organising the course, the distance that speakers have to travel, and the venue.

The complexity of course attendance..... the trainee perspective

Reassuringly, most trainees are not finding it difficult to register for the courses. Comments were made that some courses are booked up well in advance of their start date and may need to be advertised more in order for trainees to plan for this. Alternatively, popular courses could consider holding a second date where feasible. There is definitely a high demand for courses as most respondents consider attendance important for preparation for the FRCPATH examinations.

At medical school, students are always taught that prevention is better than cure. We have gained some insight into some of the complexities of course selection and attendance by trainees and we now have the opportunity to act on them. Importantly, we can assure trainees that their issue and opinions are being listened to.

Matthew Clarke and Katie Allen - BDIAP Trainee Councillors

A REPORT TO THE BDIAP ON THE LONDON UROPATHOLOGY MEETING AND 2 WEEK POSTING IN THE HISTOPATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF THE KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL (20TH-21ST NOVEMBER AND 23RD - 4TH OF DECEMBER, 2015)

BY : **ONYEKWELU VINCENT IKENNA**



I wish to thank the BDIAP for availing me the opportunity of being in London to attend the symposium on urological pathology and a 2 week laboratory observation in King's college hospital.

I received an award of 1500 GBP from the BDIAP for travel expenses.

I left Nigeria on the 18th of November via Ethiopian airlines through Addis Ababa and arrived London on 19th of November. It was a cold night at the great Heathrow airport, a change from the hot and humid Nigerian weather.

I checked into a bed and breakfast on Garlies road, Forest Hill, London. This is where I 'camped' throughout my stay in London.

The next morning, I found my way to the Royal College of Surgeons at Portland Place, where we all met to discuss and learn urologic pathology. I must say that it was a beautiful experience for me being in the same room with pathologists with great names in the field of uropathology. It was an honour to receive lectures from Prof. Jonathan Epstein, whose books we read here in Nigeria. I learnt a lot about testicular tumours, bladder and prostate lesions and how things are done in developed parts of the world. The Friday ended with wonderful wine and dinner.

The next day, we gathered once more at the same venue to crack heads on some challenging slides in uropathology.

On Monday 23rd, I reported to King's College Hospital in Denmark Hill for my 2 week program in the department of Histopathology. I must say that was a great experience in world standard histopathology practice.

Within my 2 week stay, I interacted with the consultants and residents who put me through cut-up sessions and slide reviews. I was particularly interested in breast pathology and GI pathology. I had a great learning experience from the consultants who really dedicated their time to me, especially Drs Priyah, Chirag, Mark, Hadil, Akbar, Mariana, Salisbury, Li and Salvador. I also had a great learning experience from the 'super residents' Tracy, Olivia, Isabel, Jeanne, Catherine, Anisa, Davide, Ahmed and Thomas.



(Left to Right) Wale, Fredjohn, Vincent, Bolade & Ibikunle



I particularly enjoyed the challenging black box sessions and teaching sessions. Throughout my stay in KCH, I was able to get some knowledge on the use and application of immuno-histochemistry in diagnosis. I also learnt a whole lot about the RCPATH reporting guidelines for most systems.

I also made out time, especially on weekends, to tour the beautiful and historic city of London even though the cold weather almost prevented me from doing that. I would particularly miss the 176 and 185 buses that conveyed me to work on a daily basis.

I made a lot of friends while in London and will totally love to visit this great city as frequently as possible.

On coming back to Nigeria, I have started to impart the knowledge I acquired into my younger residents and colleagues, especially as regards cut-up in breast pathology and some rare lesions not frequently seen or diagnosed here. I have stressed the need for us in Nigeria to be aware of how our practice affects surgical management of patients and how much care is taken in the UK to avoid any mistakes.

All in all, It was a totally awesome experience!

I would like to thank the BDIAP for availing me this rare opportunity and promise to do my best in upholding what this great association stands for.



(Left to Right) *Wale, Vincent, Mark Ong (My teacher at KCH.) Fredjohn, Ibikunle & Bolade.*



Long live the BDIAP!
Thank you.

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PATHOLOGY SUMMER SCHOOL 2015 OXFORD

REVIEWS Roshni Bhudia, Barts & The London



With a group of fellow curious medical students, in the lovely backdrop of Oxford and some summer sunshine, I attended the Pathology Summer School to find out more about the specialty and the role of pathologists in everyday clinical practice.

We had plenty of opportunities to speak with a range of different pathologists and soon learnt how friendly and approachable they all are! From histopathologists to forensic pathologists, it was clear that they all had one thing in common; their passion for pathology. And it was infectious!

The weekend's talks and break-out sessions covered a range of interesting perspectives. Professor Roberts talk on the use of post-mortem CT was an eye-opener. It made me consider how expanding applications of existing technologies can often be more effective than the creation of new ones. The idea that we can offer something more acceptable to families than autopsy in order to minimise distress at a difficult time in their lives is reassuring. As medical students, we do not often consider much about what happens after a patient passes away as we spend much of our time learning how to keep them alive but post mortems are an important part of learning about illness and I now intend to ensure I observe some. Professor Quirke gave some sound advice about considering what a specialty will be like in the future, taking into consideration advances in technology.

Members of the public have some interesting misconceptions of pathologists and we learnt about some great creative public engagement programmes undertaken through the Royal College of Pathologists in attempt to change these. This provided a plethora of great ideas; my favourite being the plasticine appendixes which can be cut up to discover various pathologies such as inflammation.

Since returning to London, I have been in contact with a pathologist and will be working with them to deliver a programme for 2nd years. They will visit the pathology lab and consider the diagnostic value of tests conducted there. Taking action based on ideas brought about by attending the summer school has been a great experience so far and I hope to do more of this in the near future.

Ross Culling, University of Aberdeen



Before attending the summer school my impression of a career in pathology would be one with limited, if any, patient contact with the majority of your time spent in the corner's of laboratories staring down slides. I am glad to say the weekend shattered my previous perceptions of the field and showed me the varied extent of opportunities offered by the specialty.

The different aspects of what a career in pathology involves were shown to delegates throughout the variety of seminars on offer during the weekend: alongside more typical group seminars such as histopathology and neuropathology were seminars in leadership and public engagement, which allowed us to gain an insight into opportunities for pathologists and clinicians outside of medical practice.

A common theme shared by the seminars and plenaries was an emphasis on team-work and the crucial, behind-the-scenes role that pathology plays in healthcare. For those with a limited insight to the specialty, such as myself, this demonstrated how pathologists aren't just 'tied to their microscopes', but are often integrated into various multidisciplinary teams throughout the hospital and contribute actively to patient management.

The weekend also highlighted the importance of how academic medicine continually helps to shape the practice of medicine and improve patient care.



Research, such as the human genome project and similar work, has allowed pathologists to gather data and develop new techniques that eventually benefit patients in clinical practice. A talk on personalised pathology emphasized how this knowledge has allowed us to reach more accurate diagnoses in oncology and has allowed for the use of more specific and efficacious treatments that are tailored to individuals.

The enthusiasm of the speakers and facilitators of the event for their chosen fields was consistent throughout all of the sessions, and with students ranging from first year to final year at medical school, the seminars during the day were carefully delivered in a way to allow participation of everyone. Also, with people coming from the north of Scotland to the south of England it was a great opportunity to meet other medical students from across the country through the evening events organized – the highlight being the Pathology Summer School quiz!

From my perspective as a first-year student, the summer school has made me realize the importance of the pathologist in both clinical and academic medicine and for more senior students it allowed for the opportunity to talk to doctors from different subspecialties and gain advice about career pathways. As is obvious from the above, I greatly enjoyed the summer school and would highly recommend it to any other students interested in developing their perspective of pathology as career or expanding their knowledge on topical subjects within the area.



Summer School 2015 group



Anyone fortunate enough to hear a speech by Ian Roberts will know that he can capture his audience within just a few sentences. On our first day in the Pathology Summer School, we had already experienced many first rate presentations but none were quite as mesmerising as the session taken by Ian Roberts. This was not due to oratory skills alone, but also to the revolutionary subject matter of non-invasive autopsies. Despite respect and care being given to deceased patients, autopsies are still somewhat medieval in nature due to the mechanical approach required. Conventional tools are not too dissimilar to those used hundreds of years ago, as are the procedures. As a result, it can be an unpleasant surprise to witness for the first time. There is no delicate way to remove the top of a patient's skull, neither is there an easy way to place everything that should be INSIDE the body, BESIDE the body whilst maintaining the patient's dignity. I know from personal experience that this was one of the most challenging components of my first year in Medicine. Although I had encountered cadavers from my time in the anatomy lab and recently deceased patients from various work experience posts, it was a whole new experience to witness my first autopsy. It was shocking and not something I would not be comfortable for a family member to require. Yet soon, we learned, this may no longer be the case. A technique involving MRI scanning had been developed, that may eliminate the need for a 'traditional' autopsy for the majority of patients. The look of awe was shared by medical students and pathologists alike, as this



Dr. Alec Howat (President of the BDIAP)

technology and its many features were described. From realising live TB to finding bullets to diagnosing a ruptured aneurysm, the scanning of a body could not only give information that would be difficult for pathologists to otherwise find, but also provide this information much quicker. In particular bullets, which are well known for embedding themselves in all sorts of places away from the entry site, are found within seconds by the scan. To say that this is impressive would be an understatement. I am sure this view was shared by my colleagues as the silence in the room spoke for itself. When the lecture was concluded, excited whispers filled the air as students discussed the implications. Even though I had

not previously heard of a virtual post-mortem, I had found the title suitably intriguing and therefore had previously signed up for a 45 minute session on the topic. This followed the lecture and meant that we were able to build on our enthusiasm to determine the cause of death in a range of case histories. This enforced the idea that this is a reality for pathologists in the UK. With only 2% of post-mortems in Japan requiring the traditional route, it seems that when I qualify this will be commonplace – an exciting prospect indeed.



My name is Maureen Waithaka. I am an anatomic pathologist working in Nairobi, Kenya. I am currently in my second year post-qualification.

In late March and early April of 2014, right after the end of my residency, I was the fortunate recipient of BDIAP sponsorship to attend The London Diagnostic Dermatopathology Course organised and facilitated by Dr Eduardo Calonje and Claudia Calonje. This was a week of intensive, comprehensive and highly enjoyable dermatopathology. There was a well calculated sprinkling of lectures, interspersed between sessions of intensive “glass pushing”. There were literally hundreds of slides, maybe thousands, of well-labelled and archived cases with corresponding write-ups classified under different topics. Each particular diagnosis had a number of examples to enable the pathologists to visualise the myriad of morphologies each particular condition could take on. All of these were held at the beautiful Lensbury hotel in the Teddington suburb of London. Even the nippy weather couldn't dampen my Kenyan spirit, unused to the chill. My description of the course would be incomplete without a mention of the meals which were sumptuous and more than adequate fuel to keep the participants going. One evening, we had a fine dinner that enabled all participants and facilitators to mingle in a placid and relaxed atmosphere.

The knowledge I acquired has been invaluable in daily practice and gave me confidence to approach the numerous dermatology cases with fearless zeal. In particular, the guidance on how to handle a dermatopathology diagnosis has been extremely useful especially in difficult cases where detailed morphological assessment often leads to good diagnosis.

In the two weeks following the course, I was able, again with additional BDIAP sponsorship to be attached to the St. James Hospital Pathology Department, further north in the even chiller city of Leeds, under the astute guidance of Dr Nafisa Wilkinson. I attended grossing sessions in their sophisticated and well-organised grossing room as well as slide reporting sessions. The technologists were experienced and kind. I was able to sit in lectures in uropathology and dermatopathology conducted by Dr Selina Bhattarai and Dr Will Merchant, respectively. In addition, I had a huge archival collection of slides at my disposal during the time I spent there.

While at St. James, I explored gynae-pathology (under the caring and experienced wing of Dr Wilkinson), gastrointestinal pathology (with the affable and knowledgeable Dr Rotimi and the soft-spoken and expert Dr Prasad), lung pathology (with the lovely and informed Dr Radhika Ramnath, with whom I found commonality because of her Kenyan roots), uropathology (with the – aforementioned – genial and erudite Dr Bhattarai). All these teachers were excellent and I learned a whole lot that I use daily. The residents as well were friendly and helpful during my time there.

Outside the lab, I enjoyed the camaraderie and companionship of the pathologists at the department who were very kind to share lunch times and take me out for lovely meals in the evening. There was hardly a time I felt lost during my time in Leeds. I must mention in a special way the art exhibits in various parts of St. James as well as the grand piano on the ground floor where visitors with appropriate skills can take to the keys and regale visitors with music. Many of my breaks were spent in these spaces.

I am very grateful to the BDIAP and the doctors mentioned above (and any I may have interacted with that I have may have forgotten to mention) who were invaluable during my experience in London and Leeds.

I will end with the borrowed words of Sir Isaac Newton: *If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.*

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BDIAP SUBCOMMITTEES 2016

The British Division of the International Academy of Pathology



- **Nominations and Membership Subcommittee**

Chair - Past-President	Mike Wells
President	Alec Howat
President-Elect	Mary Leader
General Secretary	Andrew Nicholson
Belgian Representative	Pieter Demetter
Administrative Secretary	Carol Harris

This Committee will determine the President-Elect and be responsible for all membership issues, the awards of the Cunningham and President's Medal, new Officer and Honorary Member appointments. It will be responsible for all matters concerning ACCEA. Its deliberations will require ratification by Council.

- **Education and IT Subcommittee**

Chair – Divisional Editor	Nafisa Wilkinson
Councillor	Fionnuala O'Connell
Councillor for Workshops	Nafisa Wilkinson
Councillor	Simon Cross
Trainees Councillor	Matthew Clarke
Communications Manager	Claire Murray

This Committee will consider applications for the Education Fund and applications for undergraduate and education support, known as the Underwood Initiative. It will also be responsible for bursary applications, the Newsletter, maintenance of the BDIAP website and publications in International Pathology.

- **Meetings and Programme Subcommittee**

Chair – Meetings Secretary	Ian Roberts
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Councillor	Marco Novelli
Administrative Secretary	Carol Harris
Co-opted -Trainee Meetings	Lisa Browning
Trainees Councillor	Katie Allen
Meetings Secretary of Pathological Society (co-opted)	Adrienne Flanagan
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Divisional Editor	Stephen Wells
Councillor	-

EDUCATIONAL BURSARIES

The British Division of the International Academy of Pathology



The British Division of the International Academy of Pathology

wishes to make available a small number of bursaries, principally to permit trainee pathologists from less affluent countries to obtain training in one of the countries of the British Division. In most cases successful applicants will attend one of the [educational meetings of the British Division](#). We also wish to encourage successful applicants to spend up to two weeks training in a laboratory while they are in the U.K. or other areas covered by the British Division. Accommodation expenses will be provided to facilitate this.

Final decisions on who will benefit from these bursaries will be made by the Education and IT Subcommittee of the British Division, but preference will be given to applicants who:

- Wish to travel from less affluent countries, and would not otherwise be able to travel abroad
- Are in training posts
- Can demonstrate how the information and training sought will be of benefit to their own institution

Detailed information on [the conditions of the bursary are available through \[www.bdiap.org\]\(http://www.bdiap.org\)](#) and must be read and understood by all applicants. Please note item (2) of the conditions; applicants are expected to have provisionally agreed a period of training in a UK laboratory. Bench fees of up to £100 per week can be paid to facilitate such agreements.

Information about forthcoming meetings is published in the Journal of the British Division, *Histopathology*, and on www.bdiap.org

Timing of applications: Applications should be made at least three months before the proposed educational meeting. All applications will be considered on receipt by the Education and IT Subcommittee and applicants will be notified, preferably by e-mail, within six weeks of receipt.

The Web page you obtain should be printed, filled in and posted to the address given. It is NOT an interactive web page.

Applicants will be asked to provide the names and addresses of two independent referees. A suggested [format for referees' reports can be obtained from \[www.bdiap.org\]\(http://www.bdiap.org\)](#).

Alternatively, please contact the Administrative Secretary of the British Division of the IAP:

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