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Image courtesy of: Ioli Mitsou, Hinke Multhaupt and John Couchman.
Primary mouse (upper) and rat (lower) fibroblasts immunostained for the focal adhesion components vinculin (red), TRPC7 ion channel (green). F-action detected by phallolidin (blue) is also shown.
Meet the New HCS Executive Director

Having some very big shoes to fill with William Stahl’s retirement, I am very excited to be working with your society. Bill has done a tremendous job with the society and journal; keeping the future in sight all along with a dedicated group of leaders. From my brief exposure, I see HCS represents a wonderful community, focusing on a science that offers broad reaching applications.

As a brief introduction, I used to work in the lab myself. In my undergraduate years, I worked in a Pathology Lab at GWU prep- ping slides for EM. Upon graduating, I worked in a military forensic lab doing mtDNA sequencing for identification purposes. After an extended sabbatical to raise my family, I joined FASEB nearly 10 years ago to work in society management. I enjoy using my organizational skills to facilitate society management while still being connected to my interests in the sciences.

HCS is on the cusp of a new era with two new committees and a strategic plan to keep the society relevant. It’s an exciting time to be a part of HCS. Please feel free to contact me any time at jholland@faseb.org with your ideas for the society!

On October 1, I will retire as Executive Director of HCS. I am happy that Jennifer Holland at FASEB will be our new Executive Director. Please attend the HCS business meeting at EB2016 in San Diego to welcome her.

-Bill Stahl

ICHSC2016 in Instanbul, Turkey.

The 15th International Congress of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry will be held in Instabul, June 19-22, 2016. This meeting is held every four years and is sponsored by the International Federation of Societies for Histochemistry & Cytochemistry (IFSHC).

Please visit the meeting website for additional information at: ICHC2016.com.
Details about the meeting will be posted on the HCS Facebook page: www.facebook.com/histochem
and on the HCS webpage www.histochemicalsociety.org
HCS Annual Meeting at EB2016

Experimental Biology 2016
San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA
(Saturday April 2, 2016 to Wednesday April 6th, 2016)

HCS PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Molecular and Cellular Basis of Disease
Sunday, April 3, 8:30-10:30AM
All-Day Session in conjunction with the American Society for Investigative Pathology on Neuroimaging and Neuroinflammation

HCS/ASIP Symposium: The 3D Brain: From diffusion MRI to Ultrastructure
Each Talk: 35 minute + 5 minute questions
Chair: Douglas L. Rosene and TBD.

8:30-9:10AM
Title: Diffusion MRI of the Brain Connectome: Problems and Possibilities
Speaker: Van J. Wedeen, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

9:10-9:50AM
Title: High-resolution Structural and Molecular Imaging of the Brain
Speaker: Kwanghun Chung, MIT

9:50-10:30AM
Title: Serial EM and 3D X-RAY views into Mouse and Monkey Brain Connectomes
Speaker: Narayanan Kasthuri, Boston University School of Medicine

The Journal of Histochemistry & Cytochemistry Lecture
Chair: JHC Editor-in-Chief Designate: Stephen Hewitt, NIH

10:30-11:30AM
Speaker: Elizabeth Hillman, Biomedical Engineering and Radiology, Columbia University, NY
Title: To be announced

Important Meeting Deadlines

Abstract submission deadline: November 5, 2015 - 11:59PM EST.
The abstract submission website is now open.
When you register or submit an abstract for the EB2016 meeting please remember to tick the HCS membership category.

HCS awards deadline for EB2016: November 12, 2015 at http://histochemicalsociety.org/Awards.aspx
New HCS Education Committee Established

The HCS Council recently approved the formation of a new Education Committee devoted to further the education of future histochemists. Committee members include: Scott Tanner (Chair), Elizabeth Unger, Denis Baskin and Jennifer Thornsberry.

An important goal of the committee is to encourage and excite students and instructors about the beauty and usefulness of histochemical applications in an educational setting. The Committee is exploring ways to effectively engage undergraduate students in histochemistry and histochemical research. This involves determining the need for immunohistochemistry lab resources for effective educational opportunities for students, particularly those at smaller institutions with fewer financial resources. In order to determine how best to support these activities the Committee has developed a questionnaire that will be made available to faculty at selected smaller institutions.

The Committee looks forward to serving the Society! If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Scott Tanner at: stanner@limestone.edu

Education Committee Members

Scott Tanner, Chair, is an Assistant Professor of Biology at Limestone College in Gaffney, South Carolina. He teaches Introduction to Biology, Fundamentals of Biology, Human Biology, Genetics, Immunology and Biochemistry. Scott develops small research projects with undergraduates, helping them to prepare for graduate and professional schools. He continues to publish both pedagogical and scientific papers.

Scott has received several awards from the Histochemical Society and was awarded the Fullerton Award for Teaching Excellence by the faculty at Limestone College.
stanner@limestone.edu

Elizabeth R. Unger is Acting Chief, in the Chronic Viral Diseases Branch (CVDB) of the CDC. She is a Past-President of the Histochemical Society and serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry.

Her research involves public health studies encompassing molecular pathology of HPV and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

She also has a long-standing interest in undergraduate education.

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Education Committee Members cont...

Denis G. Baskin is Senior Research Career Scientist at the VA Medical Center and is Research Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington, Seattle. He is a Past President of the Histochemical Society and Executive Editor of the Journal of Histochemistry & Cytochemistry.

He is co-founder of the Immunohistochemistry and Microscopy Course taught by HCS at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole. Formerly an Associate Professor of Biology at Pomona College, Denis feels a strong commitment to providing faculty of teaching

Jennifer Thornsberry is Biology Lab Coordinator at Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pennsylvania. She teaches General Biology Labs and develops new laboratory exercises on a yearly basis. She is in charge of all the General Biology Laboratory Assistants and greenhouse workers. In addition Jen is in charge of the greenhouse on campus.

Jen brings additional first hand experience related to teaching biology to undergraduates to the committee.
New HCS Communications Committee Established

The HCS Communications Committee was recently constituted. The committee is charged with managing the dissemination of the views of The Histochemical Society in social media and is seeking volunteers from the Society to help with its work. Current activities include oversight and posts for the HCS and JHC Facebook pages.

Paul Goodwin is Chair, additional members will be appointed. Please visit the Society and JHC FB pages and LIKE, SHARE and COMMENT on the posts.

Histochemical Society- for updates about members, announcements about meetings and more please follow us at:
www.facebook.com/histochem

Journal of Histochemistry & Cytochemistry - for announcements about article and feature posts on authors please follow us at:
www.facebook.com/jhc.org

Communications Committee Members

Paul Goodwin, Chair is the Science Director for GE Healthcare, Life Sciences. He works out of the Life Sciences offices in Issaquah, WA, about 15 miles (24km) east of Seattle, WA. As Science Director, Paul works with technical and strategic planning for Life Sciences. His own expertise is in microscopy, 3D imaging, image analytics, and scientific instrumentation.

He has been a constant supporter of, and instructor at the Immunohistochemistry and Microscopy Course at Woods Hole, Ma. where he teaches along side many other member of the Histochemical Society.

Paul also teaches at AQLM and OMIBS courses at Woods Hole, MA, holds an affiliate faculty position in the Department of Comparative Medicine at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA, and is an Industrial Fellow in the Laboratory for Systems Pharmacology at Harvard Medical School. Paul is also a Counselor of the Histochemical Society.

Paul likes to cook and entertain, play guitar, and works with an organization that supports orphanages in Latin America and the Caribbean. His favorite wanderings include Single Malt Scotch and contemplating quantum electrodynamics, fluorescence, and Facebook posts, sometimes simultaneously.
FASEB Roundtable on:

Rigorous and Reproducible Research Using Antibodies

Denis Baskin, Executive Editor of The Journal of Histochemistry & Cytochemistry, attended the “FASEB Roundtable on Rigorous and Reproducible Research using Antibodies”, held on Sept 20, 2016 at FASEB offices in Bethesda.

Participants in the roundtable included representatives from FASEB societies, FASEB officers, academic experts on the use and applications of antibody technology, representatives of commercial manufacturers of antibodies, and developers of antibody databases.

The motivation for this roundtable was the developing concerns in the biomedical research community regarding allegations of the inability to reproduce published findings. Moreover, NIH has announced new requirements for grant applications that include the authentication of all research reagents including antibodies beginning in 2016. The goal of this roundtable was to develop consensus principles to guide investigators in validating antibodies for the various analytical techniques that employ these reagents, with the vision that researchers could cite these principles in their grant applications to fulfill the new NIH requirements.

Following a morning of presentations by invited speakers, the afternoon session was devoted to discussion of relevant issues. These included definitions, information, and controls required to validate antibody specificity and standardization of protocols to ensure reproducibility and validity of experimental findings. While the group’s discussion covered diverse antibody-based methods, the focus mostly centered on western immunoblots and immunohistochemistry.

It is worth noting that the basic recommendations for immunohistochemistry emanating from this roundtable were essentially the same as those published recently in The Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry article, “Controls for immunohistochemistry: the Histochemical Society’s standards of practice for validation of immunohistochemical assays” by Stephen Hewitt et al. (Journal of Histochemistry & Cytochemistry 2014 Oct;62:693-7).

The full article may be viewed at http://jhc.sagepub.com/content/62/10/693.full
IHCM 2016: The Histochemical Society (HCS) developed and began teaching an immunohistochemistry (IHC) course in 2008. The course was initially presented as a one-day workshop at the 2008 and 2009 Experimental Biology meetings in San Diego and New Orleans, respectively. In 2010, the first HCS hands-on immunohistochemistry and microscopy (IHCM) course was held at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) in Woods Hole, MA. The course was organized, administered, and taught by faculty from HCS and used the extensive resources and facilities of the MBL. HCS faculty will be teaching the IHCM Course again this spring.

Course Outline: The course is four full days and evenings (11 hours daily) of lecture and laboratory sessions with experts in the field of IHC and microscopy. The goal of the course is to provide participants in-depth theory of and extensive hands-on experience with IHC techniques as well as theory and hands-on experience with a broad range of microscopic imaging techniques. The course emphasizes hands-on laboratory time and small breakout discussions with faculty and staff. The students’ laboratory work was integrated with lectures and combined with the use of a range of microscopic techniques to capture and analyze images from their slides. A key element of the course has been an integrated approach developed by academic, industry, and technical faculty to provide a range of learning opportunities and support for students.

Who Should Attend: This course is appropriate for undergraduate and graduate students, laboratory technicians, postdoctoral students, new and established faculty/clinicians seeking to expand their techniques and knowledge of IHC and microscopy. It is appropriate for beginning scientists and those with more advanced skills. Participants will be grouped appropriately. Registration is limited to thirty.

REGISTRATION AND AWARDS
There are more applicants than available slots for the Course. Early application for the Course at the MBL site is recommended. Students accepted into the course will be notified shortly after the registration deadline.
For further information visit: http://www.mbl.edu/education/special-topics-courses/immunohistochemistry-and-microscopy-ihcm/
Registration Deadline: January 20, 2016.

Histochemical Society Travel awards are available to support attendance at this course. For information regarding eligibility and other details visit: www.histochemicalsociety.org/Awards.aspx.
HCS Committees
2014-2015

Awards and Membership Committee
Margarida Barroso, Chair
Scott Tanner
Jim Mandell
Denis Baskin
Eduardo Rosa-Molinar
Alejandro Adam
Stephanie Brosius
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James Mandell
Robin Lorenz
Margarida Barroso
Stephen Hewitt
Denis Baskin, ex officio
John Couchman, ex officio

Education Committee
Scott Tanner, Chair
Jennifer Thornsberry
Denis Baskin
Elizabeth Unger

Communications Committee
Paul Goodwin, Chair
Other committee members to be announced