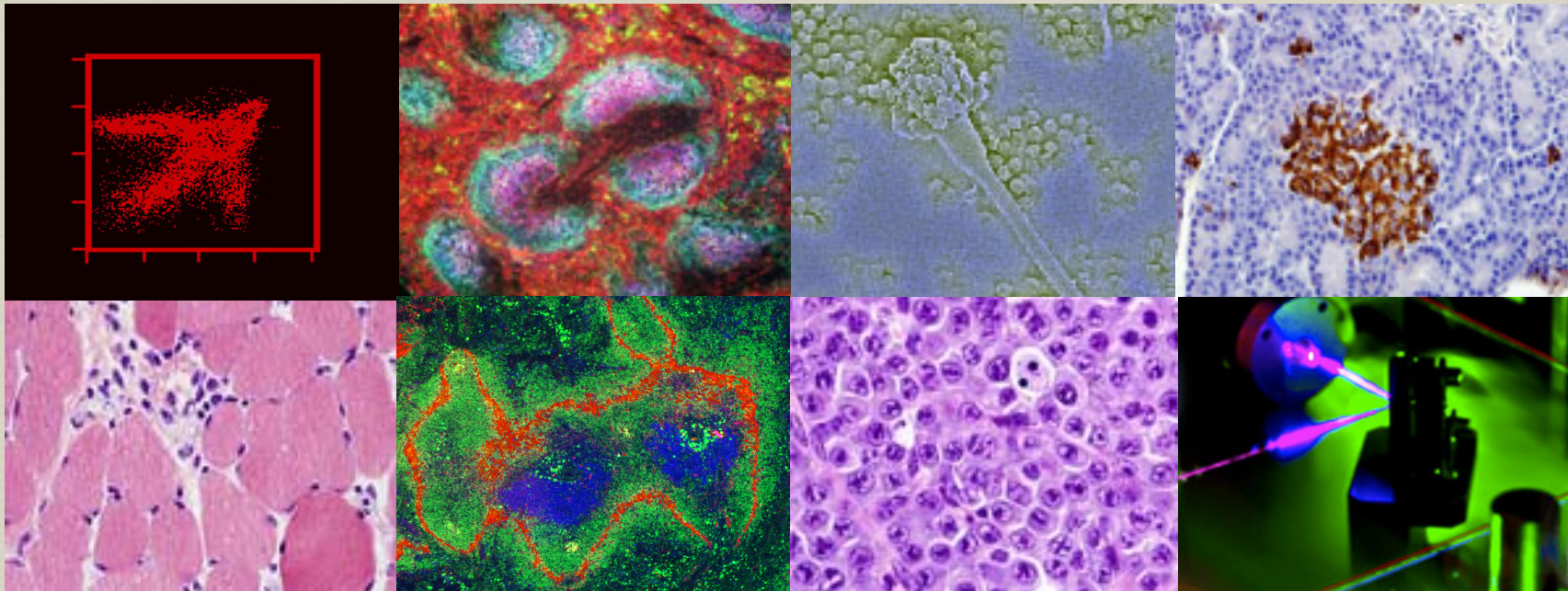


# Department of Pathology Graduate Program



Thomas Waldschmidt, Ph.D.  
Vice Chair for Research  
Graduate Program Director



# Department of Pathology:

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- Department of over 60 primary faculty members involved in both clinical service and research
- Primary clinical role is diagnostics:
  - Clinical Laboratory based testing
  - Anatomic Pathology diagnostics
  - Transfusion Medicine (Blood Bank)
  - Forensic Pathology (Autopsy)
  - Molecular Pathology
- All faculty are involved in research with 18 who direct basic research programs

# Pathology Graduate Program Basics:

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- Master of Science Degree Program with a thesis requirement
- Requirements for Degree include:
  - 21 hours of classes
  - Completion and defense of a laboratory-based research thesis
- Focus of the program is mechanisms of disease
- Average time to completion is 30 months
- Program faculty = 18 primary and 7 secondary
- Full stipend and tuition support



# Curriculum and thesis:

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- Required courses:
  - Pathogenesis of Major Human Diseases
  - Translational Histopathology
  - Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology
  - Biostatistics
  - Principles of Scholarly Integrity
  - Elective courses
- Thesis:
  - Introduction, Materials and Methods, two data chapters
  - Most students publish their thesis as first author in a peer reviewed journal

# Who are our students and why pursue an M.S. research degree?

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- If an applicant is focused on the Ph.D. degree — they should not apply to the Pathology M.S. program
- Many of our students are focused on science and research, but are not yet sure where they want to take their career
- The program helps students define the direction of their career:
  - Majority go on into Ph.D. programs on campus
  - 25% enter the Biotechnology workforce
  - Some enter M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. programs
  - Some enter MBA programs or law school



# Admission to the program

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- Our program is self-funded and hence relatively small
- Our goal is to admit two new students per year
- Successful applicants have credentials similar to those admitted to Ph.D. programs
  - Science focused baccalaureate degree
  - Strong undergraduate performance
  - Excellent GRE performance
  - Laboratory research experience
  - Strong letters of recommendation