

PATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Mission

The pathology department prepares students for the practice of osteopathic medicine by emphasizing mechanisms of disease as they apply to the signs, symptoms, and laboratory manifestations of diseases that afflict mankind.

Vision

The pathology department will be recognized as one of the leaders in developing innovative teaching tools to assist students in attaining the core knowledge in pathology that is essential for the practice of osteopathic medicine.

Core Values

Excellence - We seek excellence in all our endeavors, and we are committed to continuous improvement.

Integrity - We are committed to the principles of truth and honesty, and we will be equitable, ethical, and professional.

Service - We believe that serving others is a noble and worthy endeavor.

Intellectual Freedom - We believe in ethical and scholarly questioning in an environment that respects the rights of all to freely pursue knowledge.

Diversity - We respect others and value diversity of opinion, freedom of expression, and other ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

Stewardship of Resources - We are dedicated to the efficient and effective use of resources. We accept the responsibility of the public's trust and are accountable for our actions.

Strategic Goals, Critical Success Factors, Objectives, and Strategies

Goal One. Develop interactive computerized programs to assist in the teaching of general and systems pathology.

Critical Success Factors:

- Student rating ≥ 4.0 (agree) on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree) on overall usefulness of the program towards their understanding of pathology.
- Peer review by Basic Science department faculty of the quality of the interactive programs.

Objectives:

Objective 1.1: Identify types of interactive programs

Strategies:

- Identify pathology faculty and other basic and clinical science faculty members that are interested in developing interactive programs.
- Meet with medical students to discuss types of interactive programs that they would be interested in.
- Identify existing interactive computer programs.
- Discuss mechanisms for incorporating interactive programs into CENTERNET with faculty in OSU-COM Internet services.
- Allocate funds for materials (e.g., software) that are necessary to set up the programs.

Objective 1.2: Identify and collate resources for interactive programs

Strategies:

- Identify sources of pathology material (35 mm slides, text pictures, internet images) and scan material into a computer
- Organize images and pathology questions into body systems (e.g., cardiovascular) and general pathology headings (e.g., neoplasia, cell injury)

Objective 1.3: Develop the interactive programs

Strategies:

- Assign faculty members to develop each program

Goal Two. Develop a mentoring program in teaching for incoming faculty

Critical Success Factors:

- Faculty member will have a student rating ≥ 4.0 (agree) on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree) on the overall effectiveness of their teaching performance.
- Peer review rating ≥ 4.0 (agree) on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree) on the overall effectiveness of their teaching performance.

Objectives:

Objective 2.1: Evaluate strengths and weaknesses of lecture presentation, organization of materials, and use of audiovisual aids

Strategies:

- Pathology chair (or representative) and educational resources will evaluate faculty member's lecture(s).
- Pathology chair (or representative) and faculty from educational resources will meet with the faculty member after the lecture (s) and discuss strengths and weaknesses.

Objective 2.2: Establish a program for strengthening weaknesses

Strategies:

- Encourage faculty member to enroll in computer courses (e.g., Power Point) or other courses (e.g., Graduate Research in Pathology Education) that emphasize teaching techniques.
- Encourage attendance of lectures by experienced faculty at OSU-COM.
- Critique faculty member after each lecture.
- Initially use lecture topics that are most familiar to the faculty member.
- Eventually introduce topics that the faculty member has not previously taught.

Goal Three. Enhance research and creative activity in the pathology department.

Critical Success Factors:

- Faculty member will publish one paper in the first three years and two papers in the first five years and/or be an author or coauthor of a book in the first five years.

Objectives:

Objective 3.1: Provide ideas for research and creative activity.

Strategies:

- Encourage faculty to collaborate with other basic and clinical science researchers within and outside OSU-COM.
- Provide opportunities to write chapters in books that are currently in progress or will be written in the near future by other faculty members within and outside OSU-COM.
- Provide opportunities to teach students or contribute questions to question banks in nationally recognized organizations (e.g., Kaplan; COMLEX).
- Develop case studies for the Clinical Problem Solving course.
- Assist in teaching board reviews for COMLEX and USMLE steps 1 and 2.
- Develop a laboratory medicine rotation for third and fourth year medical students.

Goal Four. Enhance the national image of OSU-COM

Critical Success factors:

- Published books have better than average to excellent ratings in book reviews by peers and medical students.
- Yearly publication rate continues to increase over the next five years.
- Invitations to teach in national and/or international meetings continues to increase over the next five years.

Objectives:

Objective 4.1: Increase the national recognition for research and teaching excellence

Strategies:

- Update current books in print
- Write new books
- Faculty involvement in national and international teaching programs (e.g., Kaplan Medical)
- Publication of original research