Let's Look at Pathology

Duke Hospital's Pathology Department is just completing a startling renovation of both physical facilities and staff that epitomizes the recent, rapid growth of the Medical Center as a whole. Last year two events destined the year to be one of decision for this department. These were the retirement of department chairman, Dr. Wiley D. Forbus, much loved and highly respected member of the "original team" at Duke, coupled with the appointment of a new medical school dean. New administrators together with the press from expanding clinical services for more services from pathology (as well as from other ancillary services in the hospital) created a situation that called for bold new ideas.

The first problem when Dr. Thomas D. Kinney took over the reins of the department was that of creating a new and enlarged staff. Over the past years most of the eminent, Forbus-trained pathologists had gone on to head departments of their own. Dr. Kinney solved this problem by depleting the population of pathologists in the Cleveland area and bringing many of his new staff with him from Western Reserve University. The senior staff now includes Drs. Kinney, Donald Hackel, Nathan Kaufman, Stephen Vogel (professors), Bernard Fetter, John Klavins, Albert Smith (associate professors), Joachim Sommer, Benjamin Wittels, Stanley Kurtz and Jane Elchlepp (assistant professors). This group of pathologists all share a common outlook on medicine in general and pathology in particular—an outlook considered of prime importance by Dr. Kinney. These doctors all realize that in medicine today there are fewer lines of distinction between clinician (i.e., the doctor who takes care of patients), teacher and



Eileen Mikat and Pat Cruz confer with Dr. Kinney on work going on in Dr. Hackel's laboratory. This lab is typical of the new facilities that renovation of the department created. The planning that goes into the layout of a laboratory of this nature is enough to cause gray hair in the most experienced kitchen planner, but the new staff in pathology feels pleased with the results of the many hours of planning given to this task.

researcher. To be effective, a man must indulge with enthusiasm in all three areas. In order to attract men to Duke who had all of these interests, physical changes in the department were essential.

Pathology, before the renovation, was spread out in a rather leisurely fashion—a practical arrangement with a small staff. The enlarged staff made it mandatory to tighten the space belts of every facet of the department. Office space had to be found for the staff, and laboratory space had to be created and equipped. A frenzy of activity gripped the

"home of the white pots" on the third floor late last year. Only now the last of the painters' buckets are disappearing while the locksmith finishes the task of figuring out which new keys belong to which new locks and who gets how many of which keys.

In general the physical changes have been designed to consolidate the secretarial and record-keeping services, to centralize and increase the efficiency of the clinical services, to create needed laboratory spaces for research and to consolidate teaching spaces. From the moment you step

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